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IZVESTIYA HITS AFP 'MISINFORMATIOON' ON GERM WARFARE RESEARCH

LD231245 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[Special correspondents V. Kassis and A. Krivopalov dispatch under the rubric "Peddlers of Misinformation Caught Redhanded"; "Storytellers From AFP"]

[Text] Paris--The propaganda balloon launched on the other side of the Atlantic (and of commonsense!) is still spinning. IZVESTIYA has already reported (in No 85 for this year) on the way the extremely crude forgery about "Russian preparations for bacteriological warfare" was concocted.

The purpose of that "sensation" is clear. The American military are engaged in forcing acceptance of their program for expediting the production of a new generation of chemical and bacteriological weapons, it emerges from reports that have percolated into the world press. Of course, these schemes can only cause fear and protests among the broadest public. So fabrications about "Soviet violations of the ban on bacteriological, biological and chemical weapons" were needed to cover those sinister plans. What is noteworthy is not just the kind of lie that is circulated, but the way it is done. In order to prove the unprovable, NEWSWEEK, for instance, alludes to West Germany's BILD, VOA cites "reliable sources" and they all shout together about secret information that the CIA, they say, has at its disposal.

On unfolding a recent issue of Paris LE MONDE, which lays claim to seriousness and objectivity, the French reader discovered with surprise that AFP is also taking part in this unworthy contest among slanderers. The news agency has circulated a report repeating the old fables about imaginary experiments on bacteriological weapons supposedly carried out in the USSR. Essentially helping the Washington propagandists, AFP is liberal with color and "details." And here, rightly supposing that it may be rebuked for being unscrupulous, the French agency recounts facts that never took place in the elegant subjunctive mood: "allegedly," "supposedly," "it appears".... And another thing. AFP could find nothing better than to cite a "source" deserving of contempt, not trust. This "source" is the dirty rag POSEV, in which inveterate anti-Sovietists and provocateurs who live on funds from, yes, the CIA have entrenched themselves.

The French news agency, which is one of the world's biggest and ought, one would think, to be concerned about its reputation, has joined in an unsavory game. And this game will bring it no laurels. AFP's misinforming report appeared precisely at a time when a UNESCO intergovernmental conference on cooperation among and the development of the mass media, at which there is much talk of the media's responsibility to circulate reliable and truthful material, is being held in Paris. We are confident that what AFP has "published" will not go unnoticed....

LIES FABRICATED TO SECURE GREATER NATO CW APPROPRIATIONS

LD231451 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 April 1980 carries on page 3 a 1,000-word article under the rubric "Fact and Fantasy" entitled "Who Is the Real Poisoner?" by Mikhail Ozerov. The article dismisses U.S., West European, Egyptian and Chinese press and radio allegations that the Soviet Union and its allies are "probably using chemical warfare weapons" as being based on "CIA fabrications," and retorting with a condemnation of U.S. and British development of such weapons, citing U.S. production of "binary weapons" and the "big eye" bomb in particular. The author goes on to mention an FRG TV film showing sentries on guard duty in "one of the zones in West Germany where U.S.-made chemical weapons are deployed" and the alleged discovery in Afghanistan at the end of March of a case of grenades containing a lethal poison, disguised as tins of food and marked "Made in USA." The author concludes by alleging that NATO strategists are fabricating allegations in order to secure increased appropriations for the development of such weapons for their own use.

CONTROVERSY AROUND PARIS COMMUNIST PARTIES' MEETING VIEWED

LD232004 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 23 Apr 80

["No Third Choice; Towards the Paris Meeting of Europe's Communists by Boris Vesnin"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--Among the many splendid traditions of the revolutionary working-class movement there is one that stands out as fully epitomizing the humanism of the proletarian ideals--the unfailing commitment of the advanced sections of the working class to peace, to combating the brigand wars waged by the oppressors.

The entire history of the working-class movement offers incontrovertible testimony to the deep roots and immutability of this tradition. Already the First International in its very first political declaration called on the working class to intervene in the world political scene and to put forward its own policy in the sphere of foreign relations--a policy of friendship among peoples, a policy of peace. The Second International too, which devoted serious attention to the question of preventing the outbreak of world wars, attached much importance to this problem.

True, from the very inception of the revolutionary working-class movement its enemies have sought to obstruct its anti-war struggle, to sabotage and discredit that struggle. For instance, the bourgeoisie and the right-wing social democratic quarters in league with it mounted a vicious assault against the anti-war resolutions of the Stuttgart and later the Basle congress of the Second International. The call for struggle against the unleashing of world war was branded as sectarianism. Among other things, it was maintained that such a struggle on the part of the "working class movement alone" could set against it other forces capable of combating war--for instance, bourgeois pacifists--and thereby damage the fight for peace.

In August 1914 the right-wing opportunist critics of this order voted for military appropriations, thus siding with their own bourgeoisie in the first imperialist world war. By relegating to oblivion the calls issued in Stuttgart and Basle, they predetermined the collapse of the Second International.

Is it any wonder that the Third International, as a truly proletarian organization of the working class, traced its origins to the struggle against the imperialist policy of war? Or that from the very outset it made the struggle for democratic peace one of its decisive watchwords?

The first state of the victorious proletariat--Soviet Russia--emerged on the world arena bearing aloft the banner of peace. The concept of peaceful coexistence advanced by Lenin became the theoretical groundwork for the development of international relations over the decades to follow.

The peace policy of socialism could not of course find support on the part of its class enemy--imperialism. Throughout the years, imperialism refused to meet Soviet Russia's peace initiatives halfway. More, beginning with the very first days of the October Revolution, incessant efforts were made to discredit the peace policy of the Soviet state. It was precisely to this end that the myth was concocted of a threat of Red militarism hanging over Europe and Asia--a myth that Lenin demolished already in his time.

"Some foolish people are shouting about Red militarism," he said. "These are political crooks who pretend that they believe this absurdity and throw charges of this kind right and left, exercising their lawyers' skill in concocting plausible arguments and in throwing dust in the eyes of the masses. And the Mensheviks and socialist revolutionaries shout: 'Look, instead of socialism, they are giving you Red militarism'.

"What a 'horrible' crime indeed! The imperialists of the whole world hurled themselves upon the Russian Republic in order to crush it, and we began to form an army which for the first time in history knows what it is fighting for... and this is denounced as Red militarism!"

History repeats itself. But at each new stage in the march of events these repetitions become more and more of a farce.

Today the threadbare myth of the "Soviet threat" has again been conjured up in a veritable paroxysm of frenzy. But however shrill the outcry, it is incapable of transforming stupidity into its opposite. Indeed, the more passion is invested in the propagation of stupidities, the plainer it becomes that the purpose of the smoke screen of lies is to conceal the unsavoury, ugly truth. The big lie about the "Soviet threat", is nothing but a cover-up for the preparations for aggression in which U.S. imperialism and NATO are engaged.

Europe has in effect entered a new stage in the nuclear arms race imposed on it by the United States by no means in pursuance of European interests. More, this arms drive is increasingly getting out of hand and creating year after year ever greater dangers for the European peoples.

The communist movement in Europe has long-standing traditions of struggle against war on the Continent. In the thirties it was the communists who mounted the campaign against fascism and war. In the forties it was the communists who came out against the cold war unleashed by imperialism. In the subsequent years too it was the communists who were the first proponents of the policy of detente. Without going into the remote past, recall if only the Karlovy Vary and Berlin conferences; both, however different were marked by a realistic approach to the problems of war and peace in Europe, a passionate desire to strengthen peace on the Continent.

At present preparations are being completed for another meeting of Europe's communists, to be held on April 28-29 at the initiative of the French Communist Party and the Polish United Workers' Party.

It is hardly surprising that the proposal to convene another meeting of European communists originated with these two parties. The world will soon observe the 35th anniversary of the victory over fascism in World War Two. In that war the people of Poland, that truly martyr-nation, earned by their sacrifices the eternal respect of all Europeans, of all who cherish peace. As for the French communists, they occupy a lasting place in the history not only of their own country, but of all Western Europe as the standard-bearers of the anti-Hitler resistance in that part of the Continent. No wonder the French Communist Party has been called the "party of the executed."

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, along with more than 20 other fraternal European communist parties, eagerly responded to the invitation to the Paris meeting extended by our French and Polish comrades. The Soviet communists believe that the coming meeting will be an event of signal importance. It will once again demonstrate the communists' single-minded dedication to peace and afford its participants an opportunity to voice their views on what further initiatives should be undertaken in the struggle to ensure the genuine security of the Continent's peoples.

That the preparations for the Paris meeting have given rise to some debate is common knowledge. This of course is natural. We on our part would like to express our views on some of the arguments advanced.

First about the contention that the convening of a meeting of communists alone might have an adverse effect on the struggle for peace. Why? Because, it is argued, since the struggle for peace brings together diverse forces, a meeting of communists without the participation of the others would undermine continued co-operation with them.

In reply to this argument I should like to cite the following:

"Of course there have been critics who have not failed to raise a clamour merely because the communist and workers' parties of the European countries decided to get together. Why should such a gathering cause surprise? Are not similar meetings held from time to time at the initiative of political parties of different orientations?" These words belong to the general secretary of the Italian Communist Party, and they were uttered at the conference of communists held in Berlin in 1976. We believe they fully apply today as well.

Another argument levelled against the communists by the bourgeois and petty-bourgeois press is that the Paris meeting is bound to take a "one-sided" stand. And if it adopts any document it too will be "one-sided," reflecting the viewpoint of "only one side". No attempt is made to conceal that the side referred to is the socialist countries in general and the Soviet Union in particular.

In other words, the communists are given to understand that if they declare against the deployment of U.S. missiles in the heart of Europe, if they condemn the decisions of the December session of NATO, and if their views--God forbid!--coincide with the Warsaw Treaty countries' proposals for talks on the basis of the parity and equal security of the sides, they will be denounced as proponents of a "one-sided," "narrow" approach. One might ask: How is an absence of "one-sidedness," a "broad approach," to be demonstrated? By supporting the NATO arms build-up? By criticizing the Soviet Union for its unwillingness to allow parity to be upset?

Life itself constantly compels individuals, parties and classes to take decisions, to opt for one or another alternative. Now too the choice of an alternative is on the order of the day, but the alternatives are not a "narrow" or a "broad" approach, a "one-sided" or a "many-sided" approach. The choice facing Europeans today is between a policy of peace and a policy objectively leading to war. Unfortunately, that is how the question stands now, 35 years after the Second World War ended and nearly five years after Helsinki.

Imperialism is persistently and brazenly pursuing a policy of preparations for war. The antipode of this policy inimical to the people is the resolute defence of peace by the socialist countries, the communists, many social democrats, believers and non-believers, men and women of good will living in countries with different social systems.

Today all who really want peace, who are sincerely concerned for the future, are called upon to take a one-sided stand in the best sense of the word and resolutely, firmly and unequivocally side with peace, against war. There is no third choice!

ON ANNIVERSARY GEN DIYEV WRITES ON PACT'S PEACE KEEPING ROLE

LD231615 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 80 p 3

[Maj Gen D. Diyev article under the rubric "On the Warsaw Pact's 25th Anniversary": "Important Factor of the Peoples' Security"]

[Text] Recent events unquestionably attest over and over again that imperialism, and American imperialism above all, is to blame for the serious exacerbation of the international situation. Clearly frightened by the growing magnetic force of the ideas of socialism, by the broadening of peaceful cooperation among states with different social systems and by the consolidation of detente, at the start of the eighties the U.S. imperialist circles have made a steep turn toward upsetting the level of international relations reached in the seventies. Contrary to commonsense, they have undertaken a number of actions aimed at fueling tension and war danger both in individual regions and on a global scale. American politicians are constantly making bellicose anti-Soviet statements. The Pentagon is pouring oil on the flames, feeding the mass media with fabrications about the "aggressive plans" supposedly being nurtured by the Soviet Union.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that today the capitalist West has thrown everything into whipping up war and anticommunist hysteria. In this way the creators of this anti-popular policy intend to secure approval for high military budgets, to strengthen the NATO armies' strike potential and, at the same time, to compel the socialist countries to additionally increase their defense effort at the cost of cutting socioeconomic development programs. It is perfectly clear why all this is being done. The chief reason for the war hysteria inspired by Washington is that the present U.S. leadership is pursuing a policy of undermining detente and fueling international tension. It would like to dictate its will to the socialist states and to other countries traveling the path of independent development.

Major forces in the capitalist world working directly or indirectly for preparations for war are opposed to the program of peace and international cooperation proposed by the socialist countries. These forces are well known: the military, the monopolies associated with it and their henchmen in the state apparatus, as well as in the mass media. Precisely these forces are setting the tone in U.S. foreign policy today. Their junior partners--the British conservatives and West German and Japanese revanchists--are actively playing up to them. The Beijing leaders have also joined this "team." They are all united by blind hatred of communism, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The Soviet people have already heard repeatedly the hysterical wails and anti-Soviet threats of socialism's enemies. It would be possible to ignore them, if this whole vociferous campaign did not conceal really existing aggressive plans--which are being rehearsed on countless maneuvers and exercises--the dangerous actions of the imperialist powers in various parts of the world and concrete programs to build up their military potential. This must not be ignored. But some people ought, nonetheless, to understand that we and our friends can be neither intimidated nor provoked. Our strength and potential are tremendous. The Soviet Union and its allies will always be able to stand up for themselves. The USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states counter the transatlantic "doctrine" of war hysteria and the feverish arms race with the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security on earth.

The struggle to preserve detente, to consolidate peace and to avert a new world war is the general line of the foreign policy activities of the CPSU and the socialist community countries' fraternal communist and workers parties.

The greatest achievement of their indefatigable struggle for international security is the fact that the people of Europe have now been living under conditions of peace for 35 years. The daily struggle to frustrate imperialism's aggressive designs and wild plans of hegemonists and other enemies of peace and socialism is combined with the fraternal parties' consistent concern for strengthening the socialist countries' economic and defense might. This serves as a reliable guarantee of the defense of their sovereignty and security and creates favorable foreign policy conditions for realizing the plans for the building of socialism and communism. The Soviet Union and the fraternal countries threaten no one, but they are always ready to deal a worthy rebuff to those who encroach upon the peaceful labor of their peoples or on their security.

Under the conditions of the growing complexity of the international situation caused by the actions of imperialism and the military special significance is being acquired by unity of action among all forces which advocate the preservation and consolidation of peace. Recently the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries have graphically reaffirmed their determination to continue strengthening the socialist community's international unity and cohesion and to develop and improve cooperation within the framework of the fraternal socialist countries' collective organizations.

The activities of the Warsaw Pact, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary this May, are of especially great significance under present-day conditions. For a quarter-century this organization has been reliably ensuring the security of its member countries, and it is an important factor in the defense of peace throughout the world. Life has convincingly proved the need for a military-political defense alliance of the socialist countries to frustrate imperialism's aggressive aspirations. The peoples see the Warsaw Pact as a force capable of defending peace and the peoples' security.

The might of the socialist countries united in the Warsaw Pact and of all the states of the great socialist community is determined not only by their economic and military potential. It lies in the socialist society's inexhaustible advantages, which make it possible to resolve successfully the giant tasks of the socioeconomic plan, to achieve an unprecedentedly high national economic development rate and to ensure steady growth in the working people's material and cultural living standards. The socialist countries' strength lies in their peoples' monolithic cohesion around the Marxist-Leninist parties and in their unanimous support for the grand plans of socialist and communist building. This has been graphically demonstrated by the regular party congresses held in certain fraternal countries and by the elections to central and local organs of power.

The socialist community countries are also strong because of their friendship, solidarity and unity based on the Leninist principles of socialist internationalism and on commonality of aims and tasks in the cause of building socialism and communism and in the cause of defending the working people's revolutionary gains and peace throughout the world. Fraternal international solidarity augments the strength of the socialist countries' peoples and helps them to overcome the difficulties of growth and the difficulties of struggle through joint efforts.

The strength of the fraternal countries' unity and the strength of socialist internationalism manifested themselves clearly at the times when imperialism and reaction tried to overthrow the people's system in Hungary, to smother the revolution in Cuba, to deprive Vietnam's people of independence and to divert Czechoslovakia from the socialist path. All these actions were frustrated thanks to the socialist states' decisive collective actions and their fraternal solidarity and mutual support.

The socialist countries are also strong because their ruling communist and workers parties rely in all their activities on the most progressive ideology--the teaching of Marx, Engels and Lenin, which is mankind's lodestar in our era. The devotion of the socialist community countries' working people to the all-conquering ideas of the great revolutionary teaching manifests itself particularly graphically just now when the socialist states' peoples and all progressive mankind are preparing worthily and solemnly to celebrate the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth. Greeting this glorious date with new achievements in peaceful labor, the socialist countries' peoples are strengthening their solidarity and unity in the struggle for peace.

Soon afterward the world's peoples will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism. This date reminds all people in the world of the last war and of the colossal casualties and destruction which it inflicted on the peoples. The memory of the millions who fell in the struggle against the fascist aggressor enjoins the living to do everything to curb the militarists and wreck their dangerous designs.

The socialist countries' concerted actions in defending the peoples' security are an important factor in the normalization of the international political climate. The socialist countries' peace-asserting role is particularly important now that the enemies of peace are stepping up their militarist activities, fueling tension, creating conflict situations and interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign peoples.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev emphasized in his speech on being presented with the Lenin Prize: "All our accumulated experience and the international situation which is taking shape, particularly recent facts, oblige us to keep the powder dry, to be persistent and consistent in upholding the cause of peace and to remember our historic responsibility for the fate of the motherland and of all mankind."

Soviet servicemen and their combat friends--the servicemen of the socialist countries' fraternal armies--always remember their historic responsibility for the fate of peace and socialism and for the peoples' security.

BLOC'S 'UNITY OF VIEWS' ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES EMPHASIZED

LD231517 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 3

[V. Chernyshev article: "Pursuing a Course of Peace and Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] "We counter the 'doctrine' of military hysteria and of a frantic arms race with the doctrine of persistent struggle for peace and security on earth. We are true to the peace program put forward by our party's 24th and 25th congresses," is how L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, defined the foreign policy course of the USSR and the fraternal socialist countries.

When L.I. Brezhnev uttered these words at his meeting with the voters of the Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug in February the orgy of anti-Sovietism and anticommunism stage-managed from Washington was already in full swing. The leaders of the NATO bloc trumpeted for all they were worth that detente had had its day, that the period of cooperation was over and that it was time to return to the concepts of "containment" and "rolling back" communism.

This was the goal of the measures aimed at "upgrading" the arms belonging to the U.S. European allies in the North Atlantic pact with the latest nuclear missile weapons systems, sabotaging the ratification of the SALT II treaty in the U.S. Congress, new discriminatory steps in the sphere of trade with the USSR, the dirty ballyhoo over the boycott of the Olympic games and other provocative acts by the U.S. administration and its allies in a number of countries.

Simultaneously imperialist propaganda launched a broad campaign aimed at undermining the fraternal countries' unity. Attempts are being made to set the Soviet Union's CEMA and Warsaw Pact allies against it by means of promises "not to apply" certain economic "boycott" measures and other "sanctions" against them and by false speculations concerning an alleged "inequality" in the USSR's relations with the other fraternal socialist countries, a "divergence" of interests between them and so on.

But, as has frequently happened in the past, those who determine the imperialist states' strategy and tactics are merely confusing their wishes with reality. The objective content, thrust and specific forms of the policy of the USSR and all the fraternal countries confirms that it continues to be firmly based on their cohesion and loyalty to the course of implementing detente.

The 12th MSZMP Congress recently ended in Budapest. Its work was conducted in accordance with the motto of further strengthening all-round cooperation among the real socialist countries united by a commonality of aims in the struggle to build a new society.

Despite the massive onslaughts of the bourgeois propaganda apparatus trying to contrast certain features of the national domestic economic experience and international policy of Hungary, Poland and several other socialist countries with the policy of the Soviet Union, the 12th MSZMP Congress, in common with the 8th PZPR Congress in February, pointed out the fruitfulness and dynamism of the development of ties between the fraternal states and the Soviet Union, the consolidation and expansion of cooperation within the framework of CEMA and of the deepening of socialist economic integration. The recent signing in Budapest of a long-term program for the development of specialization and coproduction between the USSR and Hungary through 1990 was also an important stage along this road: Together with other similar bilateral programs it will raise economic relations between our countries to a new qualitative level.

It is characteristic that at the supreme forums of the working class's parties in Warsaw and Budapest their delegates and guests representing the other fraternal parties stressed the increasing importance of the socialist community countries' coordinated Leninist policy and expressed approval and support for the work of the CPSU and the Soviet Union in the struggle against the military threat and for detente and disarmament.

The PZPR and MSZMP congresses demonstrated once again the complete unity of views among our fraternal parties on questions concerning the contemporary international situation. This was particularly evident in the evaluation of the nationalistic and hegemonist policy of Beijing, which is consolidating cooperation with international imperialism's extremist aggressive circles and increasing international tension.

By their activities in the world political arena the fraternal socialist states allied with the Soviet Union are refuting bougeois propaganda's thesis that they are obliged merely to "follow" the lead of the Soviet Union's policy. During the periods of greatest unease, the PZPR congress pointed out, the firm and sensible position of our entire community has helped to put a stop to foolhardiness and has opened the way to a normalization of the situation. Was not, for example, the further development by E. Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, of the proposal by the Warsaw Pact member states to call a conference to discuss the question of military detente and disarmament in Europe an example of this imaginative policy?

The plans for peaceful and creative construction launched at the congresses of the fraternal parties and the results of the Moscow meetings and talks between the foreign ministers of a number of fraternal countries are all graphic confirmation of the indisputable fact that the peoples, working class parties and governments of the socialist community states link their future with the prospects of preserving and consolidating peace.

That is why they are making increasing efforts to jointly work out a foreign policy strategy and to coordinate their everyday actions in the interests of peace, disarmament and detente. "A new peace offensive" by the USSR and the other socialist countries linked to it by bonds of friendship and loyalty to the policy of internationalism is how some political observers describe the intensive international work which the fraternal states are engaged in in the present difficult international situation marked by an intensification of the activities of the forces of reaction and the cold war.

The fraternal socialist countries' working people continue to work calmly and confidently in the awareness that they have everything they need to defend their gains in the building of socialism and communism and that no "embargoes" or other methods of blackmail and intimidation on the part of the forces of imperialism can halt their achievements in the sphere of the economy, science and technology or in the social sphere.

The peoples of the socialist states look into the future with optimism and hope. That optimism is well-founded. After all, as L.I. Brezhnev pointed out, it was by the peoples' will that the way was opened to the political trend in world affairs called detente.

COLLABORATION CAN SOLVE ECONOMIC 'PROBLEMS'

LD240827 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Unity and Cohesion"]

[Text] Political life in the socialist countries is marked by a special wealth of content this spring. Together with all progressive mankind their peoples are celebrating the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, leader of the world proletariat. The party congresses held in a number of countries, like the daily practice of socialist building, convincingly prove that the socialist community countries' communists are confidently marching along Lenin's path.

Preparation for the Lenin jubilee and the coming 35th anniversary of the victory over fascism has again demonstrated how deeply the fraternal countries honor the historical services of the Soviet people, who were the first to pave the way to socialism, and their unrivalled exploit during the Great Patriotic War. It was precisely this exploit and the Soviet people's immeasurable sacrifices which enabled the working people of a whole series of countries in Europe and Asia, under the communists' leadership and through persistent struggle, to remove the forces of reaction from power, to stem imperialism's counterrevolutionary writhings and to lay the foundations of socialism in their countries.

Some 10 years after the great victory over fascism the European socialist countries had to close ranks to rebuff the military adventurers who attempted to turn the cold war into a hot one: In May 1955 the Warsaw Treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid was signed; it became the nucleus for coordination of the fraternal countries' foreign policy and a reliable shield protecting their security. [paragraph continues]

The Warsaw Pact's entire 25-year history attests that this historically unprecedented, equal military-political alliance of states, rallied by their common noble goals, socialist social system and Marxist-Leninist ideology, is successfully fulfilling the mission imposed on it by history. The collective initiatives of the Warsaw Pact states supported by all peace-loving forces led to a marked improvement in the international climate in Europe and beyond. In the present complex international situation the Warsaw Pact states are strengthening their unity of action with redoubled vigor, and struggling consistently and persistently against attempts to sink detente and cast the world and Europe back to the sinister time of the cold war.

The fraternal countries of socialism rallied into a single alliance cannot be intimidated by bellicose speeches in the White House or the ostentatious deployment of new U.S. missiles with nuclear warheads in West Europe, targeted against the socialist countries. "We and our allies will always be able to stand up for ourselves and rebuff any hostile onslaughts," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his election speech. "And no one will succeed in provoking us." The community countries are demonstrating their solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people, the courageous Lao people, the Kampuchean people, revolutionary Cuba and all peoples struggling against imperialism and hegemonism, reaction and fascism, colonialism and racism and for the consolidation of their independence and social progress.

The socialist community invariably acts from positions of historical optimism. Powerful forces oppose the attempts to involve the peoples in a new cold war. Under present conditions great significance attaches to the successful holding of the Madrid meeting of representatives of states which took part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The initiative put forward at the Eighth PZPR Congress, developing the Warsaw Pact states' joint proposals, on holding an international conference in Warsaw on military detente and disarmament in Europe met with widespread support. The socialist states' foreign policy, which in the seventies was geared toward strengthening detente and peaceful, good-neighborly cooperation among states, is not changing its guidelines for the eighties.

It is no secret that in their forward development the socialist countries are encountering complex problems. In many countries manpower reserves are exhausted and national income can be increased only by raising labor productivity and social production efficiency. The influence of the discriminatory measures taken by the socialist countries' Western trading partners and the influence of the unfavorable world economic situation as a whole is having an effect. Difficulties arise with regard to meeting growing requirements for some types of raw material, particularly energy sources. The Soviet Union, despite growing difficulties connected with the transfer of oil and gas extraction to increasingly remote regions, keeps the volume of petroleum, gas and petroleum product deliveries to the socialist countries at a high level. Prices for Soviet energy sources exported to the fraternal states remain advantageous compared with world prices. The reliability of Soviet deliveries, our friends note, creates a firm basis for national economic planning. As for the Soviet economy, it too can firmly count on deliveries of industrial and agricultural output from the fraternal countries.

The community countries resolve complex national economic problems in unison, on the paths of socialist economic integration. This is borne out by the long-term targeted program for cooperation on fuel, raw material and energy approved by the CEMA session and by bilateral programs for production sharing and specialization up to the year 1990. As is well known, the Soviet Union has already signed such programs with Bulgaria, the GDR, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. While in no way renouncing their business relations with the capitalist states, the fraternal countries see the key to the solution of their economic tasks in the fuller utilization of their own potential and in closer collaboration with each other.

The socialist community looks confidently into the future. Our party Central Committee's May Day slogans resound challengingly over the world!

Fraternal greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries! May the world socialist system develop and strengthen!

Long live the unity and cohesion of the fraternal parties and peoples of the socialist community countries!

RESULTS OF CEMA SHIPPING CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD161635 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--A conference of managers of sea-going transport of socialist countries that ended in Moscow today has pointed to successful development in the recent years of mutually-beneficial cooperation on the basis of integration and mutual assistance. Taking part in the conference were delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Representatives of Vietnam and Cuba were present at the conference as observers.

The sides pointed to the improved use of national merchant marines and ports, further development of cooperation in freight activities.

The desire has been expressed to continue encouraging participation of national shipping enterprises in the carriage of cargo by sea between CMEA member-countries and also with third countries, implying that such cooperation shall not be accompanied by administrative restrictions for other foreign flags.

In discussing problems of contemporary world shipping, the participants in the conference pointed out that the desire of ship-owners of Western countries to keep the key positions in world sea shipping will lead only to the establishment of narrow groupings, to further aggravation of contradictions in world shipping.

Having in mind the decision of the 6th special session of the U.N. General Assembly, the participants in the conference emphasized that the future changes in the relations on the sea should be built on equality of the existing socio-economic systems and should rule out any discrimination.

In line with the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the participants in the conference stated that shipping enterprises of socialist countries are ready to continue developing cooperation with all parties to international shipping on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, respect for sovereignty and national interests.

POTENTIAL DANGERS OF USE OF FORCE; CONCEPT OF GEOPOLITICS HIT

LD2311401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 80 p 4

[M. Antyasov article: "Geopolitical Schemes and Reality"]

[Text] Geopolitics is now in fashion in the United States again. The days of the post-Vietnam and Watergate "syndromes," when it was considered bad form in Washington to speak of the "balance of forces" or "spheres of vital interests," are gone. At present American statesmen are again making wide use of geopolitical arguments to back up or justify U.S. actions. Zbigniew Brzezinski draws areas of "inability" on the globe, stretching from Malaysia to the Horn of Africa. U.S. Defense Secretary Brown talks about the need to fill "power vacuums." President Carter himself speaks of the "geostrategic challenge" facing America. It is precisely from a position of defending U.S. "spheres of vital interests" that they are trying to justify the aggressive American actions in the Persian Gulf. So too the events in Afghanistan and the Soviet Union's assistance to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in rebuffing foreign aggression are declared dangerous to the United States, since the USSR has allegedly overstepped the bounds of its "sphere of influence" and violated the regional "balance of forces."

The authors and followers of such concepts try to prove that their approach is based on a strict evaluation of real factors of military might, strategy and geographical location and that they proceed exclusively on the basis of considerations of the U.S. national interest. However, the question naturally arises: How do Washington's present "power" [silovyye] actions look from the viewpoint of a really objective consideration of all these factors? The answer to this question--and sober-minded politicians, including in the United States, cannot help but ask it--is by no means as obvious as Washington is trying to make out.

The main argument cited in the United States to explain the American reaction to events in the Persian Gulf region consists of references to the strategic importance of that zone's oil reserves for the Western world. It was the zone's "energy resources," as well as its "central geographical location," that U.S. Defense Secretary Brown referred to at the end of February this year, speaking in the American Congress to defend the plan for building up the armed forces in that region. "What is at stake here," he said, "is the foundations of the economic and political well-being of the United States and its allies.... Deprivation of access to the Persian Gulf's energy resources would mean the collapse of the entire U.S. system of alliances."

Indeed, the Persian Gulf zone provides about 60 percent of all the oil exports in the capitalist world and accounts for 25 percent of U.S. oil imports and two-thirds of Western Europe's oil imports. One can understand the Western countries' interest in oil supplies from that part of the world. But are the specific U.S. actions in the Persian Gulf, the concentration of a naval armada there and the threat of a naval blockade and even the use of weapons against Iran in accordance with these interests? After all, bombings and landings by marines would very easily destroy the oil fields and the associated infrastructure, or in other words annihilate precisely what the United States must want to preserve, or so it would seem if you believe U.S. statements. And can the Camp David deal, which does not advance the resolution of the Near East problem by a single step, really help maintain stability in that region? What would be the significance of a new flareup of military conflict in that region, which is in close proximity to the Persian Gulf's oil-bearing zones? After all, the possibility cannot be excluded that this time--particularly by virtue of the American military presence--such a flareup might not remain within the local framework.

In this connection it is no accident that European countries, which are much more dependent on oil supplies from the Near East, have a much more cautious and circumspect approach to actions in this region, being fully aware of the risk to their energy supplies which thoughtless actions could entail. As the British Institute of International Relations noted in an analysis this spring, the Western countries' present policy could lead to the destabilization of the situation in that region.

Take another issue. Every American administration in recent decades, including the Carter administration, has repeatedly asserted that it is in U.S. national interests to limit the numbers of countries possessing nuclear weapons, or in other words to prevent the emergence of new nuclear power [silovyye] centers. The seriousness of this problem is indicated by the calculations of American specialists, who warn that in the next 5 years Brazil, Argentina, Pakistan, Egypt, Taiwan and South Korea could have nuclear weapons.

However, do U.S. actions promote the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons? International circles are watching with great anxiety, for instance, Washington's attempts to turn Pakistan, which has refused to join the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, into a kind of military bridgehead for the struggle against revolutionary and democratic movements. Those circles believe, not without reason, that such a policy, which promotes the whipping up of tension in southern and southwest Asia, would only inflame the nuclear ambitions of Pakistan's most belligerent circles and encourage them to speed up work under way there on creating nuclear weapons. It can be assumed that the appearance of such weapons in Pakistan would cause a chain reaction in other countries. So the question posed in a recent issue of the FOREIGN POLICY journal by Gelb, former director of the Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs at the U.S. State Department, is a natural one: He posed the question of the contradictions between U.S. aims in Asia and "important long-term aims such as preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons."

Moreover the U.S. line on building up its military presence in the Indian Ocean raises the question of a certain redistribution of American forces in the world. In this connection the concept of the so-called "division of responsibility" is being put forward in the United States, according to which the U.S. allies, first and foremost the FRG, must take on a greater share of the responsibility for the "defense" of Western Europe, while the United States concentrates its efforts in the Indian Ocean and the Near East. Naturally, this entails a considerable strengthening of the FRG's military potential, and it is no accident that this approach is actively supported by the country's military circles. As FRG Defense Minister Apel stressed, Bonn would be prepared to take on "additional tasks in Europe in the place of those allies which declare their intention of taking on military commitments outside NATO's region of operations." Similarly, in the Far East, an active line of sharply stepping up Japan's military potential has been adopted with U.S. approval.

Finally, the question naturally arises: Where are the current U.S. actions in the Persian Gulf region leading to in the military-political plane in general? In this connection it would not be superfluous to recall history. It is known that 23 years ago the United States proclaimed the so-called "Eisenhower doctrine." This mainly concerned the same region as the current "Carter doctrine," proclaimed approximately the same goals and relied in precisely the same way on the use of American Armed Forces to defend American "interests."

However, it is known that even then that doctrine, which was applied in practice in the organization of the incursion into Lebanon in 1958, by no means led to the desired goals: The revolutionary movement in that region was not suppressed, but rather the contrary, and the doctrine acted as a kind of catalyst for the unification of various political forces on an anti-American basis, in essence accelerating the disintegration of the Baghdad pact.

And the situation now is not what it was 23 years ago. The United States does not have overall military superiority, in particular in strategic forces. Equally, it enjoys far less support than it then did among local conservative forces in the region--even the governments of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan are avoiding displaying open solidarity with the United States. In these conditions American military specialists admit that, operating at the other end of the world from American shores, no "quick reaction corps" will be able to ensure U.S. domination in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf region. The only result which the use of American Armed Forces would lead to would be the threat of escalation of the conflict, as was the case, for instance, in Vietnam. Yet the discussion of this question in the United States, and in particular Defense Secretary Brown's statements, show that this possibility is not excluded, and moreover that calculations are already being made in the United States on the possible use of American nuclear weapons for tactical purposes as the "final argument." It is characteristic that such a preacher of American expansionism as Brzezinski, in an interview for the New York TIMES on 30 March this year, quite frankly declared the need to examine the question of the use of nuclear weapons with a view to extending the range of versions of waging limited nuclear war.

But surely it is clear that once the threshold of nuclear conflict is crossed, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to limit it and that matters could rapidly lead to all-out nuclear war. Brown himself had to admit this, noting in a statement that he is "not convinced that it will be possible to restrain an operation which begins by being a demonstration or even a strictly controlled use of strategic forces, and to prevent it from becoming total thermonuclear war." The time has passed when the United States could freely brandish the threat of "massive retaliation" [vozmezdiye] in the belief that this retaliation [vozmezdiye] would be one-sided. Nuclear war in present conditions and at the present level of armaments cannot be in accordance with any country's vital interests. In fact this has been officially admitted in Washington and the U.S. Government has repeatedly stated that preventing such a war is the aim of U.S. state policy. But is this compatible with practical U.S. actions, which are undertaken allegedly in the name of defending American interests?

An unprejudiced, objective analysis of the political and strategic factors of the modern world clearly indicates the dangers promised by the present American course, even if it is viewed in the terms which Washington has become accustomed to use.

MATVEYEV SCORES TENDENCY TO COPY TRUMAN, DULLES POLICIES

LD231127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by V. Matveyev under the rubric: "Political Observer's Opinion": "Who Is Reluctant To Learn From History"]

[Text] The most pious phrases on the lips of some bourgeois figures can serve only as a hypocritical accompaniment to their actions which challenge the foundations of human morality. [paragraph continues]

To embark on confrontation today when the so many lethal weapons have been accumulated in the world, when increasingly urgent tasks of man's advance require the pooling of efforts on a world scale to end the arms race, means assuming a very grave responsibility before the peoples.

Yet at least since mid-1978 official Washington has been moving from one provocative action to another in international relations. With the frenzied buildup of armaments, their deployment in new regions--especially on the approaches to the socialist community countries--with the creation of the "quick reaction" forces to carry out interventionist operations--with all this the leaders of the present U.S. administration link their calculations for regaining the lost positions of imperialist rule in Asia, Africa and Latin America. As at the height of the cold war, plans for creating so-called positions of strength against the Soviet Union and the other socialist states are linked with these actions.

May 1978, when the NATO Council summit level session was held in Washington, was a definite milestone in this respect. Receiving his guests, the White House incumbent wanted to achieve the adoption of a blaring anti-Soviet declaration. He did not manage this. But under U.S. pressure, a long-term program for speeding up armament, including nuclear-missile armament, was imposed on U.S. partners. For the public it was alleged that it was a case of a "retaliatory step" in the face of the "Soviet threat." Some time later none other than U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown, in a speech in the Senate, revealed the true purpose of these preparations: "The (NATO) alliance," he said, "must achieve clear supremacy in the military sphere by the mid-eighties."

As we can see the Washington administration is skidding onto the same slippery path on which Truman, Dulles and company vainly tried to succeed.

Since May 1978 when Z. Brzezinski visited Beijing and exercised himself so impudently in the anti-Soviet field, Washington has gone ever further in playing the "China card." At the same time the CIA's attempts to undermine the foundation of the democratic revolution which had triumphed in Afghanistan became increasingly importunate, albeit unpublicized, and for this use was also made of a lever in the form of the shah's intelligence service--SAVAK--which penetrated deep into the country during Daud's rule. Directives addressed to the appropriate departments issued increasingly frequently from the White House instructing them to seek to disrupt Soviet-Indian relations, to use the nationalist feelings of the Somali leadership for anti-Soviet purposes, and to push As-Sadat further and further along the path of opposing the other Arab countries. And Washington's actions were coordinated increasingly closely with the Beijing leaders' chauvinist policy. It is no secret that it was not without pressure from Washington that the Chinese-Japanese treaty, with which Beijing links far-reaching calculations for expansion in Asia, was formulated.

Statements by high-ranking U.S. figures to the effect that there is not a single U.S. soldier now fighting outside the country are supposed to have a reassuring ring for Americans, but these allegations are a smokescreen under whose cover official Washington could bring the American people to the brink of an abyss some day--a day that would be not at all a fine day for Washington.

Preparation for the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missile weapons in West Europe and the dispatch of large-scale U.S. military forces to the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, the plans to create U.S. military bases in Oman, Somalia, Kenya and Egypt and to expand the existing network of U.S. bases in Israel together with open support for China's expansionist course in Southeast Asia which threatens the vital interests of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea--all this places the United States in a position of confrontation with the countries and peoples in vast regions of the world, kindling dangerous hotbeds of military tension.

The broad U.S. public's concern is mounting. Here is what the Washington POST wrote on 4 February, for instance: "In his new mood, under the sign of 'Pax Americana,' Carter is not limiting himself to the Persian Gulf but is confirming the 1959 defense agreement with Pakistan and the promise made in 1962 to render military support to Thailand.... Is this not too vast a territory, especially if you consider that to judge by the results of a public opinion poll Americans are opposed to 'direct military action' in a ratio of 12 to 1."

J. Brown, the governor of California, said at the beginning of February that Carter had done a somersault and diametrically altered the platform with which he came out at the 1976 elections. As a result the risk of war and even nuclear war has increased. At the same time, according to J. Brown, the so-called boycott measures undertaken by Carter against the USSR "have in no way altered the correlation of forces."

This is not the first time the White House has tried to cook for itself the political omelet it desires, by kindling crises in the international arena. But experience also shows that this dish is usually simply inedible.

New York TIMES observer James Reston noted on this subject that J. Carter "has succeeded in winning over his hawkish opponents at the price of the loss of many of his friends."

Evidently a certain natural law can be traced here too. Among the big U.S. bourgeoisie there is a constant struggle between two trends, two approaches toward relations with the socialist countries. In the latest issue of FOREIGN POLICY magazine L. Gelb, who holds a responsible post in the State Department, wrote that in the same way as powerful forces exist which are trying to drive a wedge between Moscow and Washington, so in the United States there are also forces acting for the development of normal relations. The seventies showed what real and impressive opportunities exist in the sphere of Soviet-U.S. relations to normalize the political climate in the world. The positive changes achieved reflected the objective requirements of our time. However, it is precisely because they laid the foundation for even more substantial accords to curb the arms race that they have aroused fierce resistance from a leading sector of U.S. capitalism--the military-industrial complex. After the signing of the strategic offensive arms limitation treaty between the USSR and the United States in Vienna, all groupings of the bellicose bourgeoisie in the United States united in their attacks on the treaty and in putting pressure on the government with a view to a frenzied spiralling of military expenditure.

Those who acted thus, knew what to hit and where to aim their blow. The White House incumbent had already shown himself to be susceptible to anti-Sovietism. [paragraph continues]

To all appearances he takes as his model as a politician not the far-sighted and realistic Franklin D. Roosevelt but H. Truman, who rushed about in a state of anticommunist passion. An episode connected with Carter's visit to the FRG in July 1978 is characteristic. "Everything was prepared in advance," the Italian journal L'EUROPEO wrote. "The display of guns designed to project nuclear shells, the announcement of the dispatch of the latest series of strategic bombers to Europe.... The main task was to utter words against the 'other world' which so alarms Carter."

Scarcely curbed, but in fact, on the contrary, encouraged by some White House advisers, this trend has now led official Washington to a state of confrontation with a number of countries. The policy of ultimatums has even spread to U.S. relations with West European allies. They are being set "deadlines" from across the ocean within which they must align themselves with the U.S. yardstick.

In the fifties Dulles could still succeed in doing this--although even then not always. In the eighties this shock tactic has very little chance of success. It will rather boomerang back on those who are resorting to it.

History punishes those who are reluctant to learn from it.

ADMINISTRATION CONDEMNED ITSELF TO IRAN DEFEAT WITHOUT REALIZATION

LD231317 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh "Observer's Opinion": "Who Will Grant Them the Wisdom?"]

[Text] "It is said that victory will always have a hundred fathers, whereas defeat is usually an orphan"--the words with which John Kennedy began what was for him a very difficult television speech immediately after the CIA's failure at Playa Giron in 1961 have acquired a new resonance 20 years on. In ordering diplomatic relations with Iran to be broken off and economic and other sanctions to be employed against that country the U.S. administration has certainly condemned itself to defeat, even if it does not yet realize that.

It is simply impossible to predict now the full range of pernicious consequences for Washington of this thoughtless, irresponsible decision taken in a fever of chauvinism and in the heat of the election campaign. The isolation in which the Washington leaders immediately found themselves and the wall of cold incomprehension and alienation that has sprung up between the United States and its closest allies are confirmation that the defeat of J. Carter and his administration is an orphan.

Washington's attempt to present the measures announced against Iran as enforced and prompted by the need to protect the American hostages detained in Tehran is an extremely clumsy lie. The actions of J. Carter and his aides, who have insulted the Iranians and seem to have deliberately provoked them (remember the ostentatious patronage they offered to the former shah, the categorical refusal to condemn past U.S. policy toward Iran, or the ceaseless threats to bomb Iranian oil pipelines), have quite clearly been aimed not at ensuring the success of but at wrecking the negotiations for the hostages' release.

So far as J. Carter is concerned the hostages are no more than a matter of political prestige and additional percentage points in the election campaign.

Many Americans unfortunately fail to appreciate this, but it has long since been realized by Iranians--even those not very well versed in politics--who have once again seen for themselves the cynicism and ruthlessness of imperialism's political machine. Iranians have been filled with still greater determination not to submit to the pressure being exerted on them and to assert their right to be masters in their own home, including their right to control oil that belongs to them. It is this, not the uncertainty over the hostages, that most of all enrages Washington, for which Iran is not a country inhabited by people with worries, problems and interests of their own but is merely a "sphere of vital interests" for the United States, a geopolitical entity whose "vital importance" is determined by its strategic situation and oil reserves.

That is the reason for the American-Iranian conflict, and that is why the U.S. leaders have sent into the Persian Gulf an armada of heavy warships equipped with nuclear-missile weapons and carrying landing forces that, it is reported, are spoiling to make mincemeat of Iran and anything else that gets in their way. Washington's latest punitive measure--the rupture of diplomatic relations with Iran and the various sanctions--pursue the same intention; to intimidate the Iranians and all who feel inclined to follow their example and not to allow any changes to be brought about "in an unstable region on whose oil supplies we are fatally dependent" (I quote Z. Brzezinski's latest speech). What is that, if not imperialism in its most shameless form?

In the offices of many Washington figures you can read framed copies of the following sentence, almost a prayer: "Teach me, Lord, to take clamly events whose course I cannot change, give me the energy and strength to change those events within my power, and give me the wisdom to distinguish the former from the latter."

The head of the White House today is reputed to be a pious man, but he seems to be deliberately acting counter to that commandment, seeing just one thing as the highest wisdom--the use of crude force even where it is not only useless but pernicious, for the United States itself above all. It is not for nothing that the U.S. allies are scattering in various directions: They have spotted clearly the signs of another crushing defeat for Washington.

WISH TO 'PUNISH' IRAN 'CALCULATED,' NOT EMOTIONAL

LD231339 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent M. Sturua article: "A Dangerous Fever: War Hysteria in the United States"]

[Text] New York--The port of Haiphong is on the television screen. American planes are mining it. Like gigantic fishing nets with cigar-shaped mines attached instead of plummets, the planes cast their lethal loads into the ocean, and somewhere nearby warships are moving in formation, threateningly slashing through the smooth surface of the water. A caption is flashed up at the bottom of the screen: "From the Pentagon Archives." What is this, a trip into the past? No, it is a journey into the future. The purport of the program is not what happened in Vietnam, but what will come, they say, in Iran....

Washington, is buzzing with war hysteria. Chauvinist fumes hang in a dense, poisonous cloud over the U.S. capital.

Literally everyone is engaging in saber-rattling the--president, the senators, the press and, of course, the Pentagon. "Let's go for the Strait of Hormuz!" cry the "moderates." "Let's go for the Persian Gulf!" shout the "maximalists." The superhawks are longing to "teach Iran a lesson," bring it to its knees and make it knuckle under. "Set John Wayne on them!" the rightwing extremists demand, dusting off their green berets. John Wayne, a Hollywood actor who died recently, was a symbol of American colonialism. For several decades he wandered from movie to movie, first annihilating Indians in the role of a cowboy, and then annihilating Koreans and Vietnamese in the role of a Green Beret.

"Set John Wayne on them"--that belligerent cry has now become the password and slogan of imperialist America. Translated from emotional language to headquarters language, it means unleasing naval armadas to blockade Iranian ports; unleasing air forces to mine the Strait of Hormuz and carry out landings and bombings of Iranian cities, including the holy city of Qom. (The Yankees' "love" of Islam proved short lived). Finally, it means bringing into operation the "quick reaction forces," which are impatient to "react."

By a remarkable coincidence--if, of course, it can be called a coincidence at all--the day after President Carter announced the rupture of diplomatic relations with Iran and the imposition of economic sanctions against that country, war games by the "quick reaction forces" began, rehearsing a 5-day war in the Near East. A Pentagon spokesman hastened to report that it is purely a question of a "paper war," played out on maps, diagrams and plans, and of scenarios for "possible operations" by the colonialists' punitive corps in the Near East and the Persian Gulf regions, and that only the corps command staff, not troop units are taking part in the "paper war."

Yes, of course, it is a long way from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where the "paper war" is raging, to the Near East and the Persian Gulf. But it is by no means paper ships, but real ones that loom off the shores of Iran and are now moving toward the Persian Gulf. The armada is made up of more than 30 combat units, including two aircraft carriers. This is the biggest U.S. naval fleet assembled since World War II. The number of servicemen on board the armada's ships totals 24,000. Another detachment of warships, with the aircarft carrier Constellation as its flagship, is on its way to reinforce it.

In the future a new armada will set off from Norfolk to relieve the naval forces plying the waters of the Indian Ocean--a "task force" headed by the most modern American nuclear-powered aircarft carrier, the Eisenhower. It has (?80) fighter-bombers on board.

At the same time, military subunits to be deployed at military bases in Egypt and Israel are being activated. According to UPI, the Pentagon is secretly stepping up its military presence in Oman--on Masirah and the ports of Matrah and Salalah. Finally, in Fort Bragg itself, where the "paper war" is being waged, subunits of the 82d Airborne Landing Division and detachments of Green Berets are concentrated; according to the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, they "will be ready to set off for Iran in a few hours if the President gives the order."

Another "alternative" Pentagon plan with respect to Iran has become known. This envisages occupying Kharq Island, which occupies a key position in the Persian Gulf. This plan is warmly supported by former CIA Director Richard Helms. In "unofficial" consultations he explained to the White House that the occupation of Kharq Island will not only lead to an effective blockade of Iran but will also give Washington the opportunity to use its discretion to decide which country will receive oil and which will not.

This last fact is of particular significance for the Carter administration, which is now implementing an intensive blackmail policy toward its NATO allies and Japan, trying to obtain their complete and unreserved participation in American adventures in the Near East and the Persian Gulf region. The plan for the operation to seize Kharq lends even greater clarity to the "arguments" put forward by Washington, which tells its partners: You do not want to join in the boycott and sanctions against Iran because you are afraid of losing its oil. But in that case we will be forced to resort to military measures--a blockade, mining or occupation--and then you will not see the oil any more than you can see the back of your head. A similarly twofold mission--a military mission against Iran and a political one against its own allies--would be fulfilled by mining. The implementation of this operation, if OK'd, is entrusted to the naval formation playing the Arabian Sea. The ships in this formation have mines on board which can be laid from the air. It includes two aircraft carriers carying 150 aircraft and marine units numbering 1,800 men.

As the well-informed Washington military observer George Wilson reports, "the basic elements of the plan for occupying Kharq Island are contained in a bulky document of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff." This document can be regarded as a kind of encyclopedia for "punishing" Iran. A significant role in the Pentagon's plans is also assigned to the air force. We have already mentioned the plans for bombing Iran's religious capital--the city of Qom. A landing is also planned in Tehran to "rescue" the hostages, and the bombing of Iranian oilfields is in prospect.

The Washington POST cites the following remarks by an official administration spokesman: "Bombing Iran would improve our state of mind." Perhaps the "hawks'" state of mind would be improved for a while. But only for a while. Let us recall what happened in Vietnam. But that is not the only point--not even the main point. The question inevitably and quite legitimately arises: Would the cause of international peace be improved by this? Our world's future is too high a price to pay for brief rejoicing among Washington adventurists. The peoples will never, for any reason, agree to pay that price.

There is an undoubted emotional coloring to the war hysteria over the Iran events. Imperialist propaganda has gone all out to generate a chauvinist frenzy in the country by skillfully manipulating the personal tragedy of the hostages and misconceived national honor. Television news readers have even introduced a new chronological system. They begin and end broadcasts indicating the date not according to the normal Gregorian calendar but according to the "Tehran" calendar: Today, they say, is such-and-such a day since the hostages were seized. [paragraph continues]

Nevertheless, it would be naive to regard the so-called desire to "punish Iran" merely as an emotional outburst. In this case, as with the Chinese hegemonists' attempts to "punish" Vietnam, it is calculated.

The hostages incident is not the cause; it is the occasion the Washington hawks have been seeking for a long time in order to implement their global aspirations. Long before last November's seizure of the American Embassy in Tehran the Pentagon began to plan military actions against Iran, which had done away with the regime of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Remember another thing--the threatening statements by former Pentagon chief Schlesinger who, since 1974, has constantly said that the United States must take the oilfields by force if the states that export the "life blood of the power industry" try to "damage the industrial world." As a matter of fact, this was the aim of the notorious Kissinger policy of "small steps." And in January 1980 President Carter officially declared the Persian Gulf region a zone of U.S. "vital interests." So much for your "emotional reflexes."

The heart-rending calls to "let John Wayne loose" conceal American imperialism's far-reaching plans. Incidentally, a threat can be a policy too. Not for nothing do international law and the UN Charter outlaw not only the use but also the threat of force, and not for nothing did the United States refuse to participate in the work of the latest session of the UN special committee on strengthening the effectiveness of the nonuse of force principle in international relations. A coincidence? No way!

That the American plot against Iran is not just an improvization on John Wayne's movie adventures is indicated also by its careful synchronization with President Carter's election campaign. Depending on the mood of the electorate in the particular state where the primary is to be held and on the general trend in public opinion, Carter either offers Tehran an olive branch or offers the skeletal hand of famine and the police baton.

Here is the opinion of President Johnson's former foreign policy adviser McGeorge Bundy. He recently gave a lecture at New York University, saying that Carter is in danger of repeating the mistakes made by Presidents Johnson and Nixon during their election campaigns: the first in 1964 and the second in 1972. They used the war in Vietnam as Carter is currently using the events in Iran. According to Bundy, this manipulation can only bring short-term benefits, followed by long-term trouble.

...The war dance around Iran is becoming more and more frenzied. One Washington politicker after another is trying on John Wayne's hat and boots. Senator Lugar, for example, is demanding the preparation of an expeditionary corps to march against Iran, with the Iranian deposits frozen in American banks paying for its equipment! Another senator--Hayakawa--is not far behind. He proposes a law according to which all Iranians living in the United States--and they number several tens of thousands--will be put behind barbed wire in concentration camps, as was done with Americans of Japanese extraction during World War II. The fact that Hayakawa himself is Japanese-born has had no effect at all on his all-American McCarthyism. Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's chief foreign policy adviser, menacingly hints that military methods of pressuring Iran will be employed "very likely in a matter of weeks, not months." While Carter himself, clearly having developed a taste for ultimatums, is stepping up sanctions against "obstinate" Iran and putting the screws on his pigheaded allies.

John Wayne has taken the bit between his teeth....

CARTER MORALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR AFGHAN CRIMES OF CIA HIRELINGS

LD231455 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 3

[V. Sisnev answer to reader's letter under the rubric "International Review": "With White House Knowledge"--first paragraph is reader's letter]

[Text] It has been reported that in a number of cases the gangs being sent into Afghanistan from Pakistan have used chemical weapons banned by an international convention. How did they get hold of them? [signed] N.N. Savva, electrician at the Minsk tractor plant.

Today the question would probably be more correct in a slightly different form: Who is responsible for the violation of the convention referred to? Is the use of these weapons by counterrevolutionary groups sent into Afghan territory an act of "self-will" on the part of the U.S. CIA, or are new chemical weapons being tested in Afghanistan using the basmaks [local reactionaries], as once happened in Vietnam? In short, does President Carter know about it?

As regards the facts of the matter, the Afghan authorities have irrefutable facts to the effect that basmak gangs have received from their masters not only conventional weapons but also chemical weapons. Thus in Herat Province on 25 March, when a group sent in from abroad was routed, chemical grenades stamped "Made in USA" were seized. It has been established that on exploding they immediately poison people and produce a persistent contamination of the environment. The Afghan Government has expressed the readiness to conduct jointly with representatives of international organizations an examination of the samples of American chemical weapons seized from the bandits.

As regards the question of whether President Carter is in the know about the use of chemical weapons in Afghanistan, this is how things stand. He has publicly stated that "the Russians are doing that," without citing a single piece of evidence aside from a reference to "information obtained by the CIA." Of course, such tactics--shifting the blame--are not new. But it is something else which is important here: This is a deliberate lie in two respects. Carter is very well aware that the Soviet Union has not violated and never will be the first to violate international conventions, just as he knows that the United States has already acted in precisely that way more than once.

Moreover he cannot fail to be informed about the fact that the CIA is equipping sabotage gangs set up by itself on Pakistani bases with the same grenades as those seized by Afghan troops. The American press itself rejected the story which was about to be circulated on how the undeclared war against Afghanistan was allegedly being waged without White House knowledge.

In particular, materials on this topic were published 7 April by the New York TIMES magazine. It is clear from these materials that a secret conference took place in Washington 9 January at which it was decided to step up deliveries of military equipment to the gangs being sent into Afghanistan. F. Carlucci, deputy director of the CIA, put forward practical plans, and reported personally to the President on the results of the conference the following day. Carter immediately signed a so-called "presidential decision" sanctioning support in every way for the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Whether the "presidential decision" specifically mentioned chemical weapons is not known. Probably not. White House incumbents have never liked leaving evidence like that. However, such "caution" will hardly help President Carter evade moral responsibility for the monstrous crime of the CIA hirelings.

KORNILOV CRITICIZES OFFICIAL'S REMARKS ON YUGOSLAVIA, USSR

LD232002 Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

It has long been known that certain imperialist circles, hostile to the cause of detente, spare no effort in a bid to cast aspersions on mutual relations between fraternal socialism states. Yet another such attempt has been made in the United States: Speaking in Cleveland, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Robert Barry has said that the United States is ready to study any steps that would help preserve the independence of Yugoslavia. But the question is who threatens that sovereign socialist country? It turns out that...the Soviet Union. Mr Barry, having obviously lost any idea of what should and what should not be stated by an official spokesman of the U.S. foreign policy department, not only cast aspersions on the policy of the USSR but went as far as nearly threats against the land of the soviets by declaring that to Moscow it should be clear that the attempts to undermine the unity, territorial integrity and independence of Yugoslavia will lead to the United States profound concern.

There is no need to say that fabrications about "a Soviet threat" that allegedly hangs or might hang over Yugoslavia are a lie, and an ill-intentioned lie to that. The Department of State knows full well what is known to the whole world: The Soviet Union has always proceeded and proceeds from the desire to strengthen and develop with Yugoslavia friendly relations on the basis of full equality, mutual respect and absolute non-interference into each other's affairs. Yugoslavia's stand is also well-known. It has recently been expounded once again at the session of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly by the President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Veselin Duranovic who emphasized that "the relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union are successfully developing on the basis of the principles which underlie all documents of Soviet-Yugoslav summit meetings."

Such a state of affairs is obviously not to the liking of some American politicians who would like to see Soviet-Yugoslav relations in a state of tension. And Mr Barry and co. start inventing fables about a mythical "Soviet threat," trying on the sly to impose upon Yugoslavia some "aid" which that country does not ask for and which it does not need at all. It is an old, hackneyed provocateur's device exclamation.

And if Mr Barry really feels "anxiety" over such practices when one state tries to grossly interfere into affairs of another state in a bid to undermine its unity and territorial integrity there is no need for him to look for examples outside his own country--it is sufficient to look at the policy of the United States itself. It is not Moscow but Washington which through many years stood at the sources of all sorts of state coup d'etats, implanted anti-democratic regimes, unleased aggressive wars, committed bloody putsches and anti-democratic coup d'etats. You should, Mr Barry, recall Vietnam, Chile, and what is one to say about the present American aggression in the Persian Gulf zone, the U.S. attempts to put revolutionary Iran to its knees by threatening it with arms and economic boycott?

Washington's attempts to drive a wedge into Soviet-Yugoslav relations are undertaken not for the first time, and the most dirty methods are being used. One a deliberate fabrication was spread that allegedly Belgrade approached the United States for "support," once fables were concocted on "Moscow's perfidious plans." Evidently, the friendly Soviet-Yugoslav relations do not accord with the policy of aggravating tension and undermining detente on which the present Washington makes futile attempts to turn things into a channel to its liking with the help of provocative declarations and the most impudent lies.

CHINA

HUA GUOFENG PLAYS ROLE OF 'ANTI-SOVIET SLANDERER'

LD231320 Moscow TASS in English 1053 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS commentator Mikhail Yakovlev writes: Hua Guofeng, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, received a group of Japanese pressmen who had arrived in Beijing in order to learn about the aims of his forthcoming visit to Japan in May.

As follows from reports in the biggest Japanese newspapers, the Chinese leader is least of all concerned about the development of normal Sino-Japanese relations. As happened during his last year's tour of West European countries, he preferred again to appear in the role of an anti-Soviet slanderer.

He resorted again to the bogy of the "Soviet menace", which is much used both in the West and China. The Soviet Union, he assured the pressmen, is making plans "for seizing the oil-rich areas of the Middle East and cutting off the oil supply routes".

What is the point of this absurd slander? Beijing, following, as they now say in the Chinese capital, a policy parallel to that of the USA, wants to distract the attention of the Arab peoples and the world public from the dirty and criminal operations of American imperialism in the Middle East and, what is most important, to whitewash the aggressive actions of the U.S. military which has concentrated an enormous naval armada in the area and is preparing to establish a military blockade against Iran, and this would cut short the flow of Iranian oil to many Western countries as well as Japan. Thirdly, Beijing wants to justify the "joint Sino-American strategy" of strangling the Arab peoples who are upholding their freedom and independence.

The Chinese leader also tried to cast aspersions on the Soviet Union's legitimate assistance to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in defending the gains of the April revolution from external intervention and picture this assistance as "interference". In fact it is Beijing and Washington that are openly interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign Afghanistan, and, moreover, are actually waging an undeclared war against that country. The world press has reported sufficiently many facts of such criminal activities. The Afghan-Chinese frontier has become a breeding ground of constant tension. In the Chinese province of Xinjiang which borders on the DRA, there are bases training terrorist gangs which are then smuggled into Afghanistan. Not infrequently, the Chinese "instructors" accompany the bandits they have trained on their raids into Afghanistan.

Finally, the Beijing leader again threatened the Socialist Republic of Vietnam by declaring for all to hear that China is going to teach the SRV "another lesson". Such belligerent statements indicate that the Beijing militarists have failed to draw the necessary conclusions from their defeat in last year's war of aggression against Vietnam and are now hatching new dangerous expansionist plans which cause tension in South East Asia. One may conclude from this new interview that the Chinese hegemonists are setting the stage beforehand for imparting an anti-Soviet slant to Hua Guofeng's visit to Japan and for attempts to hitch Japan to their expansionist policy in Asia.

LUGOVSKOY VIEWS BEIJING'S 'THREAT' TO INDIA

LD231129 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 18 April 1980 publishes on page 3 a 1,900-word Yu. Lugovskoy article entitled "Threat From Across the Himalayas: Beijing's Subversive Activities Against India." The article scores China's territorial claims on India, its arming of Pakistan with weapons which could be used against India, its assistance to Pakistan in developing a nuclear bomb and its training of insurgents in Pakistan and China for infiltration into northwest and northeast India.

JAPAN 'COMPELLED' TO SUPPORT U.S. IN IRANIAN ISSUE

LD231732 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Tokyo, April 23, TASS--TASS correspondent Sergey Logachev reports: Washington's decision to break off the relations with Iran has struck a crushing blow to the fence-sitting policy which the Japanese Government stuck to for a long time towards the American-Iranian conflict. Japan pays dear for anti-Iranian "sanctions".

The powerful pressure being exerted by the Jimmy Carter administration on its Western allies and Japan in order to make them join economic and diplomatic "sanctions" against Iran has compelled the Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira, as the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN said, to cross the Rubicon in the Iranian issue, i.e. to declare the readiness to carry out the policy which is to the liking of the United States.

According to the admission of the local press, the main factor which impelled Japan to give up the cautious stand in the question of "sanctions" against Iran which it held till the recent time was the fear to make Washington angry on the eve of the coming Japanese-American summit meeting. The pro-American sentiments in Japanese ruling circles took the upper hand of the opinion of sober-minded leaders who call for development of friendly relations with Iran and who advocate a policy that would be in keeping with economic and national interests of Japan.

The foreign policy course carried out to please the United States put Japan into a predicament. Having taken the decision to join "sanctions" against Iran, Japan was left without Iranian oil which accounts for about 10 percent of the Japanese oil imports. And though the government, trying to put a good face on the matter declares that termination of oil deliveries from Iran shall not exert a substantial impact on the economy of the country, high-placed leaders of different ministries and representatives of the business world cannot hide the feeling of confusion and anxiety. To offset the loss of the Iranian oil, Japan approached the United States and the International Energy Agency with the request to widen deliveries of fuel to the Japanese isles. M. Ohira intends to make a similar request to the Government of Mexico during his visit to that country in May.

Tokyo's following Washington's selfish and dangerous policy can bring Japan nothing but a huge economic damage and a further decline of its prestige in the international scene.

MOSCOW FUNCTION MARKS 1960 UPRISING IN SOUTH KOREA

LD221401 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 17 April an evening function was held in Moscow to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the popular uprising in South Korea. It was attended by DPRK Ambassador to the USSR Kim Chae-pong.

KARMAL ADDRESSES PARTY COMMITTEES, GOVERNORS

LD231126 Moscow TASS in English 1101 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, April 23, TASS--We have some difficulties and problems in our society now, but being revolutionaries we should work to resolve them, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, said at a meeting with the secretaries of the PDPA party committees and provincial governors. He stressed the need for painstaking work to rally the people of the country and to mobilize them for building a new Afghanistan. The party activists, the governors and civil servants should explain to the masses that the state seeks to ensure prosperity, rights and democratic liberties for the working people and that the party and the state value and support the traditions and customs of the country's population, Babrak Karmal said.

NOVOYE VREMYA VIEWS CAUSES OF SOVIET TROOP PRESENCE

LD231828 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 23 Apr 80

["Two Years of Afghan Revolution"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--"Facts show most obviously: contrary to assertions of imperialist, Beijing and other reactionary propaganda there is no 'Soviet occupation' of Afghanistan at all," writes the weekly NEW TIMES in an article devoted to the second anniversary of the Afghan revolution. The Afghan authorities from top to bottom act in a sovereign and independent way, the weekly points out. They elaborate, formulate and put into life their policy themselves.

The NEW TIMES touches in detail on the causes of the introduction of Soviet troops into Afghanistan.

"Since March 1979 the Afghan leadership--Taraki and Amin--approached the Soviet Union 14 times at the minimum with the request to introduce Soviet troops into Afghanistan. The requests were motivated by the need of repelling military intervention from outside.

"The Soviet Union for a long time refrained from dispatching military contingents to Afghanistan, believing that the Afghan Armed Forces, the Afghan revolution can themselves cope with external and internal counterrevolution. Such an appraisal was in line with the realities of that time.

"In December 1979 the situation strongly deteriorated. Aggressive actions against Afghanistan were intensified and its ability to rebuff aggression largely weakened on the strength of the factors mentioned above. This led to the emergence of an exceedingly acute crisis situation. Bandit formations sent in from abroad acted late in February in 17 out of 26 provinces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The army's morale was undermined by purges and particular factional struggle among officers."

"Throughout December 1979 Amin requested the Soviet ambassador four times that Soviet troops should be introduced into Afghanistan," writes the NEW TIMES. He was prompted for that by the healthy forces at the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council and the government who were aware of the critical situation and continued the struggle for the sake of saving the revolutionary gains. [paragraph continues]

One can only guess what were the motives that Amin himself was guided by--in any case, not by the care for the revolution. It is quite probable that approaching the USSR for aid he hoped that the Soviet Union by its presence would kind of 'sanctify' his policy of repressions and terror, elevate his sapped prestige. Both the USSR and all the cause of the revolution would be discredited. Thereby, while the anti-Amin forces acting in underground conditions would find themselves demoralised. Such a version looks quite real. But even in those complicated conditions the cause of saving the revolution from encroachments of external aggressors was for the Soviet Union above other considerations. On December 24 the Soviet Union started introducing a limited military contingent into the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. On December 26 Amin asked the USSR through the Soviet ambassador to accelerate the introdution of the troops.

The fact that Amin was eliminated in the process of the introduction of a Soviet military contingent into Afghanistan is only an accidental coincidence in time, and there is no causal relationship here. The Soviet military contingent had nothing to do with the elimination of Amin and his accomplices. That was done by the Afghans themselves.

The Soviet Union had all international-legal foundations to favourably respond to the request of the Afghan side."

"There were a sufficient number of causes for the temporary introduction of a limited contingent of Soviet troops to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and all causes were weighty," the NEW TIMES writes. Need one to say that this internationalist action did not pursue any ill-intentioned aims which Western propaganda ascribes to it--something like 'a breakthrough to warm southern seas,' 'expansion towards Iran and Pakistan.'" Exhaustive explanations on the matter were given by Leonid Brezhnev in his January replies to questions of a PRAVDA correspondent.

Certainly, giving military aid to Afghanistan, the Soviet Union did not hope for approval on the part of imperialist circles, Beijing, reactionary forces in the East, to their honest appraisals. It also took into account that these actions might lead to temporary confusion, misunderstanding amid its friends in the progressive circles. That exactly, unfortunately, happened. Initially, some people were unable to appraise correctly and reasonably the significance and the meaning of the internationalist action. A number of communist parties, some nonaligned countries took a negative stand in the question of Soviet aid to Afghanistan. But in the bulk the communist and workers' movement understood the situation, gave a correct appraisal of the support which was given to the Afghan revolution by the Soviet Union. The same can be said about revolutionary democracy of developing countries. Moreover, there is now every ground to assert: Those who were sincerely under delusion, affected by imperialist propaganda, are acquiring a sober view of the situation. This is largely promoted by the practical policy of the present Afghan authorities.

AFGHAN SOLDIERS AIDED BY SOVIETS IN POLITICAL EXERCISES

LD231549 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 3

[Dispatch by special correspondent Col V. Izgarshev: "Wings Grow Stronger"]

[Text] Kabul, April--They are billeted next door to each other--a Soviet military subunit and an Afghan one. Capt V. Burekhin described how good, businesslike contacts were established with Afghan servicemen from the very first day of their servicemen's stay in this garrison.

Senior Lieutenant (Rasul), the subunit's deputy commander, Engineer-Major (Ismatulla), Unit Propagandist Major (Golakhmat) and many other Afghan officers frequently come to their Soviet colleagues to exchange work experience or to ask for advice on the organization of political education work.

A joint 2-day seminar of political workers and nonstaff propagandists--leaders of political study groups--was held here not long ago. The Afghan comrades listened with great interest to our propagandists' speeches on questions of the work practice of Marxist-Leninist officer-training groups and the conduct of political exercises with soldiers and sergeants. A joint methods conference has also been held.

Soviet and Afghan servicemen also frequently spend their leisure time together. Words of sincere trust and respect are heard at friendship soirees, and songs and dances of both countries are performed. At a recent soiree everyone was captivated by Lieutenant (Khalinl's) performance of Afghan and Russian songs and dances. All these joint measures, conducted on the initiative of both sides' party organizations, are of great significance. Not long ago a sergeant in an Afghan unit, who had been on a short leave to his village, brought his fellow villagers back to the unit. "They do not believe that we live in harmony with the Russian comrades," he declared. "Let them see with their own eyes."

A soldier from a remote mountain settlement was visited by a relative (I do not give his name because he lives in direct proximity to the border with Pakistan, from where bandits penetrate into Afghan settlements). And this gray-bearded Afghan said this on meeting our servicemen: "You are our brothers. You have come to defend us against those who are seeking to destroy the country. They pass themselves off as Muslims. Recently they brutally tortured a teacher. He brought light to people, and for this the enemies killed him. We in our mountains will severely punish the bandits who make their underhand way to us from across the border. Thank you, Soviet brothers, for coming to us and for treating our children, our soldiers so respectfully, as in one family."

...Flights are taking place. Afghan airmen are rehearsing group flight coordination. On the second anniversary of the April revolution they will take part in a flight over the republic's capital. Watching them, Soviet servicemen are sincerely gladdened by the way in which the Afghan Air Force's wings are growing stronger every day.

Here is a curious detail. When I was in this garrison, radio stations reported that it had been captured by mercenaries. I can testify that I did not see a single one of them there.

WEEKLY DESCRIBES AFGHAN ARMY LIFE, LAUDS ACHIEVEMENTS

LD231409 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 14

[Aleksandr Prokhanov report: "Soldiers of Revolution"]

[Text] Kabul-Moscow--I leaf through issues of THE TIMES, NEWSWEEK, The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, articles on Afghan affairs. The authors are different, the approaches are different, different cities and provinces are mentioned. But the talk always revolves around two essential themes, as though they had been sent out to all the publications at once as compulsory propaganda directives. These themes are the following: first, Soviet soldiers' brutal treatment of the peaceful Afghan population and mass terror, virtually genocide, involving the use of napalm, gases and fragmentation bombs; and second, the Afghan Army's absolute lack of combat capability, reluctance to fight against "partisan coreligionists," demoralization, desertions, and cases of clashes between Afghan subunits and Soviet subunits.

The article and reports are based on the words of anonymous eyewitnesses, among whom are people like a certain "Russian Major Yuriy" (The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR). I am not going to analyze the sources of this information, since the quest for them would lead me a long way from Afghanistan. I would merely say that the point of these propaganda cliches produced by the "uncontrolled," "free" and "objective" Western press is to give public opinion the impression of a "brutal, barbarous invasion by Soviet troops," "an invasion against which a monolithic Muslim people have risen up," as though there were no revolution in Afghanistan. No class struggle of the poor against the feudalists. No Afghan patriots, party members and nonparty people. No feelings of gratitude among the Afghan population toward the Soviet troops who came to their aid. And no such force as the Afghan revolutionary army, which is fighting against the internal and external enemy, is loyal to the government and is gaining new strength and experience in the fighting and victories.

My story is about Afghanistan's young army.

Baghlan Province. A battle in a village. Regimental commander (Mokhab Ali) is controlling the fighting by radio. He is pressing his tank helmet against the armor of a troop carrier. Crackles and shouts of command are coming over the headset. A helicopter bearing the red insignia of the Afghan Air Force clatters low overhead. Missiles and shell tracers can be seen. Battalion Commander (Asek Mukhamat) is sending a company into the attack. With his finger he indicates the direction of the strikes on the dusty armor. Infantry combat vehicles, their tracks clanking on the asphalt, burst into the fields, heading for a fortified clay tower where flashes of machine gun fire can be seen in the loopholes.

Over there, in the feudal castle, is a nest of Basmaks, a bandit stronghold. It is under attack; the enemy is being driven out. A file of infantrymen in mud-spattered helmets rises from the wet earth and begins the assault, covered by two armored carriers. And once again, as has repeatedly happened, the surviving Basmaks drive shouting women and children out of the gates, using them as cover and pushing them toward the soldiers' now silent submachineguns, and flee into the mountains, where ready-saddled horses, narrow paths that vehicles cannot travel and their subterranean lairs await them.

The company returns from the battle. The soldiers throw down the captured submachine guns. A mountain of smoking, blackened weapons. They sit down wearily, leaning against the troop carriers. The battle is won. Tomorrow they will be fighting again. Another nest, where another gang with a different ringleader is based. Above the soldiers' heads the mountains can be seen in the setting sun. I look at the soldiers' faces. I think: Who are these people who have won this fight? What are they thinking about?

Revolutionary sentiments have always made themselves felt in the Afghan Army. Back during its time underground the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan had a strong organization among the military and found a response to its revolutionary program. It was the army, led by the party, that rose to overthrow Daud. The tank called (Vatandzhara), which today stands on a pedestal and is called the "Afghan Avrora," started the rising with a salvo from its gun. The fighter-bomber (Kadyr) dived on the presidential palace. Today the people's army is undergoing a period of reorganization and modernization and is being turned into a new type of army--with a new social role and new social nature.

Private Gafur was one of those who threw two submachineguns onto the pile of trophies after the battle. He comes from a large peasant family. His elder brother did military service under Daud and was typical of the soldiers who went to serve in the army from remote hamlets, illiterate, knowing nothing of the world, never having seen a truck or motor vehicle; two oxen in harness; the eternal wooden plow; the tribal feudal princeling whose will, whose view, was law; the village mullah, the immutable authority on matters of wisdom and morality; the regulated traditional way of life handed down from the remote past. [paragraph continues]

That kind of soldier arrived in the army with his bedroll and bowl, ate and slept on the ground, was beaten for any offense, was the officer's servant and, wherever the hour for prayer might find him--even on the battlefield--would unroll his prayer mat and pray.

The revolutionary army sees the soldier as an individual and elevates and develops him. In the divisional camp that has been constructed, Gafur and his comrades sleep in a warm and spacious barracks and eat in a new canteen. After oxen and wooden plows, his steed is now an infantry combat vehicle--a speedy armored weapon with electronic consoles, sights, antitank guided missiles and a night vision device.

Today's revolutionary army is a huge "campaign against illiteracy" in which soldiers learn to read and write and open their notebooks every day, when they are not fighting. Today's army is a continuous "political enlightenment campaign" in which the principles of the new society and new morality are persistently instilled into every soldier's heart and mind. You still see collective prayers and the regimental mullah, but you also see political rallies, impassioned speeches by political workers and ceremonies of admission to the Communist Youth League.

Pashtun, Uzbek and Hazara--representatives of the Afghan tribes and nationalities, many of which are traditionally on bad terms--welded into a single crew, a single young brotherhood here in the army, learn lessons of internationalism, overcoming survivals of the past in themselves.

All this is not easy, not an overnight victory. The heart and mind of today's soldier are in the throes of restructuring and of struggle, sometimes dramatic. The enemy wants to take advantage of this struggle. The army and soldiers are the target of intensive enemy propaganda, terror and blackmail. The bandits seek to send their agitators in among the army, to dispose soldiers toward treason and treachery. In the villages, learning that a son is serving in the army, they hold the parents, threaten to kill them, force someone to go to the unit to bring the son home and to make him throw down his rifle. They impede the recruitment of conscripts: As soon as a lad's induction approaches, they threaten him, scare him off, or simply escort him to terrorist bases in Pakistan.

But the terror does not produce results. A revolution has already taken place in young soldiers' hearts; there has been a turning point; the choice has been made. I was told how a wounded soldier was taken prisoner by bandits. They demanded that he repudiate the army and party in front of everyone. But he shouted "long live the revolution!" Then they cut out his tongue and cut off his lips and asked whether he was still dedicated to his army and his bloody head: Yes, he was. They tortured him to death, but even in his death agonies he remained dedicated to the army and revolution.

This is not the first year in the army for Private Gafur who is resting with his back against the combat vehicle after the battle. He could have returned to his village when his 2 years of drafted service were over but he told his commander that he would not go home. He would stay in the ranks until total victory.

The Afghan Army is also dominated by the new, revolutionary type of officer who is not from among the aristocracy and feudal lords but from among the people, from the officials or intelligentsia. After a brief course the former teacher, student, plowman or baker receives a platoon and gets his baptism of fire, becoming a participant in the armed struggle--the "special war," as the regimental commander said, referring to the actual nature of the operations and clashes and to the nature of the enemy.

What is he like, the revolution's army enemy? What is the nature of the "special war?"

The gangs operating in the mountains, which attack traffic on the highways and people's militia posts and try to establish control over provinces and the peaceful population, are certainly not spontaneous "rebels from among the people" and "partisans," as Western propaganda calls them. The "people's rebellion" is based on a rigid party organization--an illegally operating party structure with its own party apparatus, archives, functionaries and intellectual party leaders from among the "Muslim Brotherhood" whose headquarters are in neighboring Pakistan. I saw captured files from those archives and party cards bearing the green emblem of the Koran.

Parallel to and based on this party structure operates a military structure--headquarters manned by officers and equipped with maps printed in Pakistan, schools training officer cadres both on the territory of Afghanistan itself and abroad, stores of weapons and foodstuffs, and organized lines of communication along which modern material--submachineguns, machineguns, radio sets, antitank mines, grenade launchers--is moved by caravans of mules and camels, and sometimes trucks. I saw a camel caravan being stopped in Qunduz and soldiers cutting open blankets and extracting the latest submachineguns. I saw four trucks loaded with Chinese submachineguns--some of those that travel to Pakistan along the Karakorum highway--being captured in Kandahar.

When it devises operations the rebels command coordinates them with Western special services and has the capacity to transfer its subunits from province to province and to mass them for attacks. That is how February's Kabul putsch was prepared, thousands of armed rebels were secretly brought to the capital from various provinces.

It is against this well organized, politicized, externally controlled force that the Afghan Army has to struggle and wage "special war," "special" because there are no entrenchments, front lines, meeting engagements or proven classical tactics of modern warfare. What is entailed is finding bandit lairs. Surprise raids on their centers. Combing mountains and villages. The ability to avoid ambushes and sniper shots in the back. Operations in small groups. Helicopter landings in the mountains and the capture of headquarters. Patrols on highways and by tunnels and bridges. And along with this purely military activity there is propaganda and constant appeals to the peasants--rallies, persuasion, assistance, protection. The army is waging its struggle in the people's name and relying on the people's assistance. On any operation you will see, along with the military, local peasant guides who track the enemy and help to distinguish bandits from peaceful inhabitants.

What is the genocide of which they are talking in the West? In Jalalabad I witnessed the way that bandits taken prisoner, captured in battle with weapon in hand, these bandits who repented were set free, on their word of honor. The people's power does not want bloodshed. It does not take revenge; it wants peace and prosperity....

The division is holding a festive rally. The Afghans' combat comrades, Soviet soldiers, have come to visit the unit. There are speeches, handshakes, a joint soldiers' meal, an Afghan Uzbek from Mazar-e Sharif. He wants to learn more about apartments and families? In response he gets a color postcard with a view of a Tashkent theater and even a telephone number: "When you're back in the Soviet Union, call me!"

I watch the two combat columns, one following the other. Mighty equipment. Mighty fraternity. Ahead lies struggle. And certain victory and peace. Two fraternal armies linked by a single world outlook, a single lofty goal. The armored troop carrier has a banner bearing Muslim caligraphy: "Afghanistan's Army, party and people are united!" The burnished barrel of a machinegun. The young face of a soldier of the revolution, a with a black mustache.

VARIATION TO INTERVIEW WITH AFGHAN PARTY MEMBER

Comparison of the item entitled "Afghan Party Member Nur Views 'Second Stage' of Revolution" published in the 21 April 1980 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page D 4 with the T. Gaydar and L. Mironov dispatch datelined Kabul, April, published on page 5 of Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 April 1980 under the headline "Rallying the Tanks" adds the following passage between paragraphs one and two:

The April revolution is national in nature, as it reflects the national peculiarities of the peoples living in Afghanistan and their profound religious feelings and takes into account differences in the traditions of the country's nationalities and tribes, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, said in his report. It sets general democratic goals. These include the elimination of feudal and prefeudal vestiges in Afghan society, limiting major landowning and allocating land to the landless peasants and those with little land, boosting the national economy, improving the people's living standard, eliminating illiteracy, developing the national cultures of Afghanistan's peoples and democratizing public and political life.

At the same time the revolution in Afghanistan is an integral part of the revolutionary process taking place in the world, whose foundations were laid by the Great October Socialist Revolution.

In accomplishing the revolution in April 1978, B. Karmal stated, Afghanistan's peoples showed the world that they have resolutely chosen the path of democracy and social progress, the path of noncapitalist development and the path of creating a new, just society in Afghanistan.

PAKISTAN TERMED 'TOOL' IN U.S.-PRC ANTI-AFGHAN 'CONSPIRACY'

LD231636 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 23 Apr 80

["A Constructive Dialogue Is Needed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

The progressive world public attaches great significance to the peaceful initiatives that have been repeatedly made in the recent time by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In decisions of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in statements of the Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal it was pointed, specifically, to the sincere desire of the Afghan people for development of friendly relations with the neighbours, with all Islamic states.

Favouring solution of all controversial issues through peaceful means, Afghanistan meanwhile demands full termination of interference on the part of American imperialism and reaction into internal affairs of the Afghan people and of encroachments upon the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Unfortunately, such a realistic and constructive stand of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan finds no understanding in neighbouring Pakistan. It is generally known that there are more than 70 strongpoints and centres on the Pakistani territory where anti-Afghan mercenary groupings are trained and armed with weapons, bought with American dollars and Chinese yuans, under the guidance of "advisers" from the United States and the People's Republic of China. The brigandage perpetrated by these groupings largely hampers the efforts to bring about the earliest normalization of the situation in Afghanistan, diverts the people of that country from solution of pressing socioeconomic problems. The responsibility for this rests also with the Pakistani authorities which actually encourage the subversive activities against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Obviously, seeking greater military aid from the United States, hoping to get for his anti-Afghan course something from China also, Ziaul Haq increasingly forgets about the interests of normalization of relations, restoration of peace and stability in southwest Asia, and increasingly assumes the role of the mouthpiece of the interests of Washington and Beijing in that region.

The Pakistani leader in all his speeches makes assurances that Pakistan, as he says "shall never become a satellite of any great power" and "shall not allow the use of its territory for hostile actions against Afghanistan". But these assurances are only a propaganda screen for the deeds which are being done in quite opposite aims. The undisguised aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan being directed by the United States and Beijing from the Pakistani territory is part of a broad conspiracy of the forces of imperialism and international reaction which has as its ultimate end aggravation of the international situation. And Pakistan in these dangerous plans is assigned the unseemly role of a tool of American-Chinese conspiracy.

NEW PAKISTANI PUBLISHING HOUSE PRINTS ANTI-AFGHAN MAGAZINE

LD222318 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Delhi, April 22, TASS--According to reports reaching here from Pakistan, a special publishing house under the name of Institute of the Afghan and Islamic Peoples has been set up in Peshawar, a town in the northwest of Pakistan. It is to prepare various materials of an anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan nature. The first issue of a magazine which rudely distorts the Soviet Union's assistance to the Afghan people has already come off the press. It should be noted in this connection that the fact of the appearance of such a publication on the territory of Pakistan is added evidence that the Pakistani authorities are creating favourable conditions for stepping up subversive activities against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

SOVIET PEOPLE'S 'DIGNITY' OFFENDED BY PHILIPPINE FOREIGN MINISTER

LD231557 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[N. Alekseyev "Rejoinder": "Strange Position"]

[Text] The Philippine press has recently begun to publish "ideas" and "opinions" obviously inspired from overseas to the effect that it is the Soviet Union which i to blame for the present aggravation of international tension. Even some responsible politicians who, by virtue of their position should seemingly be concerned to implement the political line proclaimed by the present Philippine Government within the framework of measures to create a "new society" in the country, have not refrain from trying to play up to the Americans in their anti-Soviet campaign. They include, unfortunately, Philippine Foreign Minister C. Romulo. Addressing representatives of business circles in Manila recently, he made attacks against the USSR offending the dignity of the Soviet people who, at the cost of innumerable sacrifices in the last war, saved mankind from the nightmare of the fascist plague.

There is no doubt that the dissemination of anti-Soviet concoctions in the Philippines in no way helps either to ease the present international tension or to develop feelings of friendship and cooperation in our countries' peoples, and this runs counter to the national interests of the Republic of the Philippines. Ultimately such statements only play into the hands of those forces seeking to return the world to cold war times.

ASIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES MEET IN MOSCOW

BK220923 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] According to VNA's Moscow correspondent, a get-together was organized in Moscow from 16 to 18 April between representatives of South and Southeast Asian countries' associations for friendship with the Soviet Union and various Soviet mass organizations.

Representatives of many South and Southeast Asian countries attended the meeting. The Vietnamese delegation was led by Nong Quoc Chan, vice minister of culture and information and a member of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with peoples from all countries and a member of the Executive Committee of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association.

The meeting unanimously approved an appeal of the people of the South and Southeast Asian countries and expressed concern over the collusion between imperialism and the regional reactionaries and expansionists in plotting to interfere in the internal affairs of the South and Southeast Asian countries and to jeopardize peace, stability and security in the region. The meeting affirmed solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their national construction and defense tasks that will contribute to consolidating peace, security and stability in the region. The participants in the meeting pledged to do their best to bring peace, build friendship and strengthen cooperation among the peoples of South and Southeast Asian countries.

PRESIDENT TITO'S CONDITION 'REMAINS CRITICAL'

LD231936 Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Belgrade, April 23, TASS--The state of health of Josip Broz Tito, the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, remains critical, says today's report of the council of attending physicians that was transmitted by the TANJUG agency. Alongside the comatose state, the president was in a state of shock since last night. The doctors are taking the necessary medical measures.

RUDE PRAVO REPORT ASSAILING U.S. OLYMPIC BOYCOTT CITED

LD231941 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 5

[TASS report: "Under Crude Pressure From the Administration"]

[Text] Prague, 14 April--A boycott of the Olympic games is senseless and illogical--that is what all sober-minded people think, RUDE PRAVO writes about the U.S. National Olympic Committee's decision not to participate in the Moscow Olympics.

The committee made this decision contrary to the demands and wishes of the overwhelming majority of American athletes, the newspaper emphasizes.

The U.S. National Olympic Committee, RUDE PRAVO continues, prepared for the session in an atmosphere of fear and pessimism. Carter, his advisers and the whole group of the ruling class in power in the United States today waged war on reason and on the Olympic idea, in other words, on the idea of mutual understanding among peoples. The Carter administration stepped up its threats and finally went so far as to declare that American athletes will not go to Moscow even if the committee is against a boycott, that they will be deprived of funding and that they will simply be forbidden to travel to the Soviet Union.

Carter publicly warned the committee that his decision was final and that he was prepared to use the power vested in him as President for the fulfillment of his decision. Not possessing any arguments, the President's advisers resorted to the allegation about a "threat to national security."

Thus President Carter, the newspaper concludes, stage-managed the blackest day in the history of the American Olympic movement. He has succeeded in literally tearing the American flag from the Olympic flagpole. This is a real blow to all Americans, not only for athletes and tourists but also for television viewers. The U.S. administration has deprived every one of them of the right to watch such a bright, unrepeatable event as the summer Olympic games.

TIKHONOV, KAPITONOV ATTEND POLISH EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD231249 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline "Treaty of Friendship and Fraternity"]

[Text] K. Olszewski [Polish ambassador to the USSR] held a reception on the occasion of the noteworthy anniversary [of the treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the USSR and Poland].

The reception was attended by N.A. Tikhonov, I.V. Kapitonov and other officials.

COMMENTARY ON EEC DECISION ON IRANIAN SANCTIONS

Baratov Commentary

LD231456 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS commentator Nikolay Baratov writes:

The Carter administration urged the member-countries of the West European Common Market onto a dangerous road. Making use of the fact that all those countries, except Ireland, are NATO members, Washington resorted to the levers of the notorious "Atlantic solidarity". In result, at the two-day session which came to a close in Luxembourg on Tuesday, the EEC Ministerial Council decided to take a number of measures that meet the demands of the White House for West European countries' joining in U.S. punitive actions against Iran.

The anti-Iranian plan of the Common Market in its present form envisages, in particular, a reduction in EEC countries' diplomatic staff in Tehran and in the number of Iranian diplomats in the West European capitals, a ban on deliveries of arms to Iran, reintroduction of a visa system for Iranian citizens, renunciation of conclusion of new export agreements with Iran. Iran is being threatened that still tougher economic "sanctions" may be adopted at the next EEC foreign ministers' meeting in Naples on May 17, an embargo on the purchases of Iranian oil, in particular.

Having agreed to back the U.S. aggressive policy with regard to Iran, the participants in the Luxembourg session adopted decisions which run counter to the national interests of the Common Market member-countries. By making its partners come out with "sanctions" against Iran, Washington pursued selfish aims. Thus, proceeding from the fact that all the oil sales settlements are made only in U.S. dollars, the USA presses for curtailment of economic relations between EEC countries and Iran, particularly in the field of oil deliveries, so as to strengthen its own currency. It is not fortuitous that major Western stock markets reacted to the U.S. oil blackmail by a drop in the rate of the West European currencies and an increase in the rate of the dollar. A reduction in the deliveries of Iranian oil to West European countries will bind the destiny of the economies of those countries closely to the interests of U.S. oil monopolies.

There is no doubt that participation in the anti-Iranian campaign inexorably leads to an undermining of the West European countries' economies which, unlike the U.S. one, in many respects depend on foreign trade and particularly on Iranian oil supplies.

Compelling its West European allies to join the U.S. punitive actions against Iran, Washington imposes on them a false interpretation of the very notion "sanctions" and makes them act contrary to the UN will. The UN Security Council is the only body which has the powers to take decisions on application of sanctions, as is clearly stated in Article 39 Chapter 7 of the UN Charter. It is well known that in January 1980 the UN Security Council rejected as unfounded the claims by Washington which sought adoption of a resolution on sanctions against Iran.

The European partners also should take into account possible political consequences of the anti-Iranian venture into which Washington is drawing them. As THE FINANCIAL TIMES pointed out yesterday, President Carter's actions may draw its allies into a wide military conflict.

Even the U.S. press admits the fact that the Carter administration, through a gross pressure, makes its Western partners take actions which do not correspond to their own interests. The Washington STAR writes that West European countries and Japan feel that they are being driven into a dark room with no way out.

As far as Iran is concerned, it does not intend, as is pointed out by its leaders, to yield to blackmail and pressure by joint imperialist forces. It has resources to resist both political and economic boycott. Speaking in Tehran recently, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, Iranian minister of foreign affairs, stated that economic actions will not be as effective as the Western propaganda media are trying to present. He emphasized that there are enough countries in the world which are ready to have trade relations with Iran. Revolutionary Iran's stout resistance to the gross neo-colonialist pressure earns it a wide political support on the part of all anti-imperialist forces of the world.

Losev Commentary

LD240148 Moscow World Service in English 2300 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Common Market at their meeting in Luxembourg last Tuesday decided on introducing so-called economic and diplomatic sanctions against Iran. We follow with a commentary written by Sergey Losev of Radio Moscow on the subject:

The Common Market foreign ministers have decided to urge their national parliaments to adopt not later than 17 May a decision on the implementation of so-called sanctions against Iran and they have also decided to immediately put an end to the conclusion of contracts for exporting new goods or services with Iranian bodies or citizens prior to the introduction of the so-called sanctions.

They have also decided without delay to cut the number of the West European diplomats accredited in Tehran and to rescind permits for the export to Iran of arms, equipment and technology which could be used for defense. In the West European capitals it is no secret that the Common Market decisions are no less than submission to the American diktat which graphically illustrates the limited sovereignty of the countries of the Common Market.

Newspapers of different trends also do not differ on this account. As the LE MATIN notes, the nine foreign ministers gave in to pressure on the part of President Carter and with great difficulty reached agreement on the economic sanctions against Iran. L'HUMANITE notes that the Nine gave in to Carter's ultimatum. L'HUMANITE says that human rights and the principle of noninterference in internal affairs have for many years been trampled upon in Iran by the United States. Now the Nine are following Carter. They do not go so far as Carter but following in his footsteps they are encouraging the American President to continue the policy of tension when they should on the contrary be persuading him to abandon it.

In the view of the QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS West Europe has thrown President Carter a bone. Time will show the result of the dangerous decisions taken by the Common Market. It may well be that the decision on the so-called economic sanctions will boomerang not only against Washington but also against its allies in West Europe, all the more so that the economic prospects for the United States and West Europe as it is are not brilliant.

The American weekly TIME carries the headline "Wolf at the Door" to an article in its last issue dealing with the difficulties being experienced by the national economy.

The wolf is the economic recession which is increasingly reflected in the fall of production, of demand, in growing unemployment, in the increasing number of closures of vehicle factories. TIME stresses that the United States faces the second biggest fall in its economic indices following the great depression of the thirties.

And it is quite obvious that a disruption of the flow of Middle Eastern oil--and this precisely is what the adventurous policy of the United States is leading to--will still worsen the economic depression in the United States and will rapidly spread it to the rest of the capitalist world. Here it should be noted that West Europe and Japan are far more dependent on supplies of Iranian oil than the United States. In order to substantiate in some way the unilateral, arbitrary measures taken against Iran, the resolution of the Luxembourg meeting quotes international law and some so-called resolution of the United Nations Security Council on Iran of 10 January 1980. But, as is known, such a resolution does not exist. It was not passed by the Security Council for the simple reason that the Soviet Union made use of the veto right to prevent international brigandage to which the United States is pushing the world. And the only body which is empowered to take decisions on the use of sanctions is the United Nations Security Council, which is stated quite clearly in the Article 39 of the United Nations Charter.

Forcing its Western European allies to join its punitive actions, Washington into the bargain is foisting on them a false interpretation of the very notion of sanctions. In short, it is a question of arbitrariness in international relations, which the world community has all grounds to oppose in every possible manner. The Iranian oil minister, Mr Mo'infar, in an interview with the PARS news agency has said that Iran has decided not to sell oil to the countries which like the United States will adopt a hostile attitude towards Iran. These countries will be included in a blacklist and Iran will cut her oil output.

Apparently those Western observers are right who are saying that the economic and trade boycott of Iran is easier to proclaim than to put into practice. As THE FINANCIAL TIMES notes, the measures being taken by the United States and the Common Market will inevitably lead to Tehran looking for other trading partners, including the nonaligned countries and even those allies of the United States whose backing for President Carter's policy looks like pure rhetoric.

Iran's neighbors will also not stand aside. The Ankara correspondent of the New York TIMES reports that even the Turkish Government has refused to take part in the anti-Iranian so-called sanctions. Most important for Turkey is oil and Iran has promised to supply her with 2 of the 12 million tons of oil the country will need this year.

THE FINANCIAL TIMES says that the Common Market decision will be condemned by all Moslem countries. Naturally, the socialist countries will also not remain indifferent to the destiny of Iran.

FURTHER REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON GROMYKO VISIT TO FRANCE

Beginning of Talks

LD231622 Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 23, TASS--Today negotiations began here between member of the Politburoau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and the Foreign Minister of France Jean Francois-Poncet.

In the course of the negotiations the sides noted the stable development of the Soviet-French bilateral relations and the positive significance of the political consultations between the two countries for the cause of peace and international cooperation. Andrey Gromyko and Jean Francois-Poncet exchanged opinions about the current situation in the world and some of the specific international problems.

The negotiations, pursued in a frank and businesslike atmosphere, will be continued.

Today the French foreign minister gave a dinner in honour of the foreign minister of the USSR.

Dmitriyev, Kasparov Commentary

LD240134 Moscow World Service in English 2300 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko is in Paris at the invitation of the French Government. Our correspondents Vladimir Dmitriyev and Pavel Kasparov have cabled in this dispatch.

The visit of the Soviet foreign minister is in the focus of attention. French newspapers carry numerous commentaries on Soviet-French relations and cooperation. Many watchers point to the fact that Moscow and Paris initiated the detente process and now they are continuing their dialogue. The present talks in Paris are all the more significant bearing in mind the aggravation of the international situation. This has come about as a result of Washington's irresponsible actions.

Late last year Washington adopted its present course of whipping up the arms race and anti-Soviet hysteria. Alongside with this the White House is intensifying pressure on its West European allies to make them toe the American line, aimed at undermining detente in Europe and elsewhere. However, the sentiment in France is that confrontation can hardly promote interstate relations and help solve world issues. True, some propaganda mouthpieces are out to belittle the significance of the Soviet-French negotiations. To please Washington they speculate on the Afghan events and deliberately distort the essence of the assistance given by the Soviet Union to friendly Afghanistan.

These papers seek to convince the public that the talks would deal exclusively with Afghanistan. However, this quarrels with the actual situation. It is a matter of common knowledge that political consultations between the Soviet Union and France have always encompassed a wide range of such crucial issues as disarmament, international detente and mutually advantageous international cooperation.

It will be 10 years this year since the day when the Soviet Union and France signed an agreement to hold such consultations on a regular basis. The present meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries is no exception. Their discussions center on specific world issues and the situation in general. The two ministers have already reviewed Soviet-French relations and voiced opinions what should be done for their further progress. As it has been announced, the Soviet foreign minister is to meet with the president of France on 24 April. Soviet-French negotiations will continue.

Meeting With Giscard

LD241100 Moscow TASS in English 1056 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 24, TASS--After today's meeting with the President of France Valery Giscard d'Estaing Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, said to pressmen: The meeting was an interesting and, I think, useful one. But our conversation is not over, it will be continued. Therefore I wouldn't like to go deep into the problems we discussed.

Giscard Luncheon

LD241202 Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 24, TASS--President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France has today given a luncheon in honour of Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, USSR foreign minister.

DPA: FRENCH ENVOY TO FRG SEES SOVIET ENVOY IN BERLIN

LD231819 Hamburg DPA in German 1740 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Berlin--Jean-Pierre Brunet, French ambassador in Bonn, had a meeting today with Petr Abrasimov, Soviet ambassador in East Berlin. The Press Office of the French Military Government in Berlin announced that Abrasimov had received Brunet for a luncheon. The statement continues that during the meeting, which took place in a "friendly and sincere atmosphere," "questions of mutual interest were discussed."

FRANCE UNRESPONSIVE TO U.S. ANTI-SOVIET POLICIES

LD231205 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Special correspondents V. Kassis and A. Krivopalov "Letter From Paris": "Colors of Spring"]

[Excerpts] The colors of Paris and France.... Their palette is so varied and rich. Whatever may sometimes be said about the French people's allegedly frivolous nature, the majority of them are realists and by no means inclined to view through rose-colored glasses either what is happening in their own country or events in the international arena. Daily concerns are involuntarily interwoven with anxiety for the fate of peace, which is now being severely tested.

The bourgeois mass information media here are trying to distort the picture of the present state of affairs in international relations. They would like to convince readers and listeners in France that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are "to blame" for the complications in the situation.

These attempts can cause nothing but surprise and indignation. They are failing to convince French people, who realize who is calling the anti-Soviet "tune." People in France well remember too that, during the years of mankind's greatest ordeal, the Soviet and French peoples were in the same camp fighting for a peaceful life. This lesson of history from those years cannot be forgotten. [paragraph continues]

It was none other than General de Gaulle, leader of Free France, who observed: "For French people Soviet Russia is a great country, our ally in two world wars. By its bravery and untold sacrifices it secured final victory, and safeguarding peace without its participation today is inconceivable."

Our two countries were the trailblazers of detente and their cooperation in implementing its goals, which accord with the interests of all countries and peoples, greatly altered the political situation in Europe, where an atmosphere of good neighborliness and strengthening peace began to take shape. It is well known throughout the world that the Soviet Union has struggled and continues to struggle to insure that detente is extended to the military sphere too, but it is precisely this which forms no part of the plans of the U.S. military-industrial complex and the reactionary political forces linked with it in the New and Old Worlds. This is the real reason for the deterioration in the international climate which is giving rise to fears among a considerable number of French people.

The attempts to resurrect the cold war in which the Washington administration is zealously engaging find no understanding among broad circles of the French public, including sober-minded representatives of the bourgeois political and business world--and this despite the very severe pressure brought to bear on them from across the Atlantic. In Paris people frequently speak and write about the need to continue West-East dialogue and to preserve detente. It has not been forgotten here that a year ago in Moscow L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and French President V. Giscard d'Estaing signed a program for the further development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and France for detente and peace. This document notes in particular that the main aim of this cooperation is to promote the consolidation of peace, the strengthening of detente, the elimination of centers of tension and the attainment of real progress on the path to disarmament. The program retains all its topicality now.

Soviet-French contacts continue to develop in the most diverse spheres. These include political consultations, trade, and scientific and technical ties. The fact that trade turnover between our two countries tripled between 1975 and 1979 as compared with the previous 5-year period says a lot.

Back in 1922 Vladimir Ilich pointed to the need for Soviet Russia to effect rapprochement with France and develop trade relations with it. This instruction of Lenin's retains all its force in our day too.

OLYMPIC BOYCOTT SYMBOLIZES FRG 'SUBMISSION' TO U.S.

DW2308Z3 Moscow in German to Germany 1627 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The FRG Government has decided to recommend that German athletes not participate in the Olympic games in Moscow. Vladimir Ostrogorskiy comments:

The Federal Government and press sources close to the government are trying to play down the significance of this decision. Reportedly, the government was not happy to have to make a decision on this issue at all. They say, with a knowing smile as it were, that the boycott recommendation does not relieve the athletes and the National Olympic Committee of their own responsibility and power of decision.

The Federal Government says it would not dream of taking any measures to obstruct the athletes' participation, and so forth. This brings up the question, of course, of what forced the government to take an action, of whose devastating effects on the Olympic movement and on FRG sports prestige it seems to be aware, and which it would prefer to avoid? The answer which is given time and again is this: Otherwise the protecting power, meaning the United States, would be angry. The higher interests of the security of the Federal Republic of Germany require this sacrifice. The signal must be given; solidarity must be manifested.

Well, we do not intend to look any further into the question here as to what extent the Federal Republic requires the protection of the United States. This is a question in itself. It is a fact, however, that the United States grants protection not because the people in Washington are touched by the beauty of the banks of Rhine River or by the amiability of Bonn statesmen, but for tangible reasons. Specifically, this is required by the interests of the U.S. monopoly capital, the global strategy of U.S. imperialism.

In other words, the Atlantic partnership so often cited in Bonn in these days is not a love match but a marriage based on common sense, or more precisely, calculation. Consequently, it does not require any proof of love to be upheld, and it is hardly probable that U.S.-FRG relations would be seriously jeopardized if the Federal Government had refrained from the fatal recommendation and given preference to the interests of sports and to decency.

The true motives of the characters in this disgraceful farce are not what they claim to be; the United States does not want the West Europeans to stay away from the Olympic games because it seriously thinks this could in any way influence Soviet policy. To President Carter and his advisers this is a sort of Gessler's hat [symbol of submission] a symbolic though effective act of submission by the allies which is doubly important in view of the adventurous plans in the Middle East.

SWEDISH PREMIER STOPS OVER IN MOSCOW

LD231237 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Stopover in Moscow"]

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister O. Ullsten stopped over in Moscow 18 April.

At the airport he was met and seen off by I.N. Zemskov, USSR deputy foreign minister, other officials, and by C. de Geer, Swedish ambassador to the USSR.

PARS QUOTED ON AGREEMENT ON IRANIAN-SOVIET PROTOCOL

LD231642 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The Iranian news agency PARS reports that Iran and the Soviet Union have worked out a draft protocol on economic and industrial cooperation. The minister of economy and finance, Reza Salimi, said in an interview for the agency that before signing, the protocol will be handed to the Islamic Revolutionary Council for approval.

He added that the two countries have reached agreement on transporting Iranian imports through the Soviet Union in case of necessity.

According to the minister, the two countries will soon resume talks on shipping Iranian gas to the Soviet Union.

IRAN DECIDES TO INCREASE OIL SALES TO ROMANIA

LD232228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 23 Apr 80

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Grachev and Igor Charikov]

[Text] It has been announced in Tehran that Iran is to increase the sale of oil to Romania by more than 60 percent. In the near future, Iran will begin to sell oil which was destined for Japan and to the Shell and British Petroleum companies. The Iranian oil minister has stated that this is due to their refusal to pay the higher oil prices fixed by the government. Further talks on that issue are useless, the minister added. He said that there are countries in the world which are prepared to buy Iranian oil at the new prices.

IRANIAN OFFICIALS COMMENT ON U.S., W. EUROPEAN SANCTIONS

Bani-Sadr Remarks

LD240746 Moscow TASS in English 0648 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 24, TASS--The policy of the United States administration is aimed not at the release of the hostages but at their use for its purposes, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president of Iran, said on Wednesday in an interview granted the French broadcasting station Europe-1. He added that the Common Market countries had made a mistake following in the wake of the United States, which does not stop threatening Iran. The story with hostages, he stressed, could have been settled long ago if the United States really wanted it.

Ayatollah Beheshti Views

LD231656 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 23, TASS--Member of the Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Beheshti has said at a press conference held here that economic sanctions of the United States, Western Europe and Japan against Iran are not any surprise for the leadership of the republic. "The United States and West European countries believe that they have in their hands all resources of the world, but they are mistaken," he said.

"The socialist and developing countries are ready to support Iran, and the negotiations of a Soviet trade-and-economic delegation which were held in Tehran is one of the examples of this. Besides, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Poland and other states expressed their desire to maintain equitable and mutually-beneficial relations with Iran."

"It should be emphasized, said Ayatollah Beheshti, that the development of relations with the countries of socialism is not a step under the pressure of economic measures from the West but the normal process which has ever been advocated by the revolutionary leadership of Iran. This process benefits both sides and cannot entail any dependence of any of the partners."

Ayatollah Beheshti expressed confidence that the problem of American hostages held by Moslem students would not be ironed out within a month, the deadline "given" to Iran by members of the Common Market. Much more time will be required to resolve this problem, he believes.

MOSCOW PERSIAN NOTES DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT TO IRANIAN STEEL MILL

NC231815 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The (Starasco) machine plant has completed orders placed by Iranian steel forgers 3 months before the deadline. Today the last wagons carrying steel-forging equipment left the factory gates for the National Iranian Steel Organization, Isfahan. The cargo of these wagons is powerful equipment for keeping the atmosphere humid and cool in the extremely warm work units of the steel mill. With the installation of this equipment, working conditions for the workers will greatly improve. These units are used in the largest steel mills in the Soviet Union. Cuba, Mongolia, Afghanistan, Syria and Turkey are its customers as well. Delivery of these units is made to improve working conditions in the extremely warm workshops and on the basis of Soviet technical assistance to increase the production capacity of the Isfahan steel mill.

IRAQI MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS

LD232348 Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 2100 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] Iraqi Minister of Industry and Minerals Tahir at-Tawfiq, who is leading his country's delegation to the Soviet-Iraqi committee meetings for economic and technological cooperation, has arrived in Moscow.

BULANTSEV: EGYPT SUPPLYING WEAPONS TO AFGHAN REBELS

LD232051 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Bilantsev writes: Washington's and Beijing's undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan has been joined by Cairo--this is confirmed by a report of an ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent from the Pakistani town of Peshawar. Afghan counter-revolutionaries, who have entrenched themselves in Pakistani territory, the report says, received weapons made in Egypt, including submachine guns.

The As-Sadat regime's indirect participation in the escalating aggression of U.S. imperialists and Beijing expansionists against Afghanistan is not at all surprising. Firstly, this step was made by a regime accustomed to betraying the interests of the national liberation struggle: He [word indistinct] that the record of the Egyptian (?president) includes the treacherous Camp David deal which was a betrayal of the Arab world and in the first place of the interests of Palestinians deprived of their own country.

Secondly, previously Cairo was also on the active organizers of armed provocations against sovereign Afghanistan. It is known, for instance, that Egyptian military "advisers" are busy training the Afghan bandits in bases in Pakistani territory. In addition, mercenaries and other subversive elements are also being trained in Egypt for waging an aggression against Afghanistan.

Supplies of Egyptian weapons to Afghan rebels show that Cairo has openly joined the U.S.-Chinese collusion spearheaded against the national liberation movements of the peoples of the developing countries.

PRAVDA REPORTS BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO S. YEMEN'S 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD

LD241311 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] To Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee:

Please accept, Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, our congratulations in connection with your election as general secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

We wish the YSP and all the working people of Democratic Yemen further successes in achieving the goals proclaimed in the YSP program. As before, the Soviet Union will invariably take the side of the friendly South Yemeni people in their struggle to defend the gains of the revolution, national independence and sovereignty and their struggle for social progress and against the intrigues of imperialism and reaction.

I am confident that relations between our countries, based on the treaty on friendship and cooperation, will continue to develop and strengthen in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen and of universal peace and international security.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

GEYVANDOV VIEWS ISRAELI INCURSION INTO LEBANON

LD231227 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 80 p 5

[Konstantin Geyvandov commentary: "Aggression Again"]

[Text] Beirut--For several days now, after crossing the border, Israeli tanks and armored troop carriers have been moving deep into Lebanese territory, driving back the U.N. interim force posts located there. The Tel Aviv leaders' latest action can only be described as a flagrant violation of a neighboring country's sovereignty, as aggression, as the highhanded violation of all the norms of both international law and morality. The Lebanese Government has demanded that the UN Security Council be convened immediately.

How much longer are the Tel Aviv aggressors' crimes to go unpunished? It is pointed out in Lebanon that Israel's leaders cite their state's "security" as the reason for such actions. On this score the Beirut press quite reasonably points out that the notorious "security" is the same false argument which official Tel Aviv invariably uses to justify both the Israeli occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, and its refusal to recognize the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create their own national state. In the name of this "security" Israel is annihilating the Lebanese civilian population and in the name of "security" it has occupied in Lebanon a border strip 10 km wide.

The Lebanese public and press directly link Israel's current overt occupations of a part of their country's territory with the visit to Washington by Israeli Prime Minister Begin. As is pointed out by the newspaper AS-SAFIR, Israel's ruling circles--knowing that U.S. President Carter, involved as he is in the election campaign, will scarcely, in his drive for Zionist votes, dare to counter Tel Aviv's aggressive course--have hastened to create new "faits accomplis" by their policy of unbridled expansion. They are fully confident of U.S. support.

The U.S. administration's connivance at the Israeli aggressors has made their present incursion into Lebanon easier. According to the newspaper AN-NAHAR, U.S. false assurances that Israel did not plan to launch a military intervention against Lebanon were conveyed to the Lebanese Government through the U.S. ambassador in Beirut on the eve of the invasion.

The crimes being committed by Israel are arousing the anger and indignation of the Lebanese people, the Palestinians and other Arab peoples. On their side they have the solidarity and support of all the world's honest people.

ZHUKOV COMMENTS ON SYRIA, STEADFASTNESS SUMMIT

LD231043 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 19 Apr 80 pp 1, 11

[AL-WATAN Moscow correspondent report on press conference given by Yuriy Zhukov, member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and head of the Parliamentary Foreign Relations Commission--date not given]

[Text] Moscow--A senior Soviet official has said that his country will give Syria aid but will not send forces.

Commenting on the recent Steadfastness and Confrontation summit resolutions, he said: What can be done after these resolutions? Are they expecting the Soviet forces to liberate their land for them? This was said by Yuriy Zhukov, member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and head of the Parliamentary Foreign Relations Commission at a press conference.

[Question] There is fear of an Israeli attack on Syria. What will your attitude be and will you send forces to Syria?

[Answer] We will give Syria every assistance but there is no question of sending Soviet forces because the Soviets do not take part in wars outside their borders.

[Question] When Afghanistan was exposed to external danger you did send your forces beyond your borders.

[Answer] There is no treaty between us and Syria similar to that between us and Afghanistan that gives Syria the right to ask for our military intervention.

[Question] What if Syria asks for your intervention regardless of a treaty?

[Answer] I cannot answer a hypothetical question.

[Question] The steadfastness and confrontation summit has announced its resolutions which include a call for strengthening relations with you. How do you evaluate the resolutions?

[Answer] Most unfortunately Arab unity is confined to this small number of Arab countries. Were the Arab countries to agree on a united stand, Israel would abandon its hardline language. It is also unfortunate that a large number of Arab countries adopt a stand as neutral observers and do not participate in the struggle against Camp David and for the sake of restoring the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem. Those countries do not give sufficient aid to the Palestinian people. It is the duty of the Arab media to call for the establishment of a broad Arab front of all the Arab countries in order to give support and backing for the Palestinian people's cause. What happened was that some Arab countries met and adopted resolutions. But what is to be done after the resolutions? Do they expect the Soviet forces to liberate their land for them? This is the duty of Arab armies. I wonder how many Arab states confronted Israel during the 1967 war? Most of them expressed their solidarity through statements and did not use their arms to defend their brothers. This is the essence of the problem.

[Question] There are Western European attitudes that call for returning to the Geneva conference. Is this possible?

[Answer] We have no information regarding the convening of the Geneva conference. There is only an agreement between As-Sadat and Begin sponsored by the United States. We have strongly denounced the Camp David agreements because we consider them some sort of collusion. We believe that the current talks have no legitimacy. The PLO and the Arab countries did not entrust As-Sadat with taking decisions regarding lands that do not belong to the Egyptian regime or to Israel. Consequently, any decision taken by them cannot be considered legitimate. As far as we are concerned our stand is firm and clear. We believe that Israel must completely withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem and the Palestinian people must be enabled to establish an independent state of their own. As for talk about the alleged self-rule it is a deception of world opinion. This is our unchanging stand.

With regard to Geneva, if the proponents of this idea want to convene such conference in order to lend legitimacy to the Camp David agreement then, of course, this is rejected. As you know we reached agreement with the United States in 1977 (the Soviet-U.S. statement) on convening the Geneva conference before January 1978 but the United States went back on its word in less than 48 hours.

We support the Arab stand calling for amendment of Resolution 242. We believe that it is necessary that it should include a provision on the Palestinian people's right to establish an independent state of their own, that the separate talks must stop and that Camp David must be abandoned. After that a real settlement can be considered.

Concluding, the Soviet official affirmed that U.S. propaganda about the existence of Soviet danger to the gulf area is nonsense, particularly since the Arab peoples are struggling for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces [as published] which actually occupy their lands.

ZIMBABWE INDEPENDENCE AUGURS CHANGES IN S. AFRICA

LD231257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 80 p 5

[N. Zenovich article under the rubric "Political Atlas": "Won in the Struggle"]

[Excerpt] The Zimbabwe people's attainment of political independence is an important milestone along the path of the national liberation movement in Africa. It is a question of the elimination of a major colonial and racist stronghold in the south of the continent, which has been used by the enemies of African freedom in order to destabilize the situation and thwart the efforts of young states aimed at resolving the problems of economic and social liberation. Statesmen and politicians in African countries have repeatedly recalled that the potential inherent in political independence can only be given concrete expression when the continent's full liberation is completed.

After the disintegration of the Portuguese colonial empire in the last 10 years, and now the elimination of the last British colony in Africa, there is every reason to believe that the implementation of this slogan is a matter for the not too distant future. The racist South African regime is left in complete isolation on the continent. Whatever support Western powers may give it, it is clear that the racist system is doomed.

Judging from Pretoria's reaction to the Zimbabwe people's victory, the racists are unwilling to reckon with reality. This is indicated by their course of feverishly strengthening their war machine, by their attempt to maintain domination in Namibia one way or another, and by their stepping up of subversive operations against the "frontline" states, whose ranks Zimbabwe has now joined.

With the birth of independent Zimbabwe the conditions have become established for a radical restructuring of the economic structure in southern Africa. The prospect has opened up before young states here of liberation from the dependent position they were placed in by the policy of South African imperialism. The significance attached to this is indicated by the content of the declaration: "Southern Africa: Toward Economic Liberation," which was adopted by the leaders of nine independent states in the region, including Zimbabwe, at a conference in Lusaka in early April. It deals with the creation of a major economic grouping which will be able to withstand economic expansion by South Africa and the Western powers.

The acquisition of independence opens up broad potentials for the Zimbabwe people, who are traveling the path of national, economic and social development.

SWAPO RAPS S. AFRICAN DELAY IN NAMIBIA ISSUE

LD231117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 80 p 1

[Correspondent V. Volkov dispatch: "Patriots' Staunchness"]

[Text] Luanda, 13 April--The racist authorities of the Republic of South Africa have refused to hold direct talks with the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) leadership on granting independence to Namibia. Viljoen, of South African administrator general in Namibia, has stated in Pretoria that there is allegedly "no need" for it.

A. Mushimba, SWAPO representative in the People's Republic of Angola, said in a talk with your correspondent that this proves that the racist authorities intend to continue their occupation of Namibia and to plunder its natural resources. [paragraph continues]

This is being done despite the frequent demands from the United Nations, the OAU and the entire world community on the need for UN-supervised elections in Namibia.

By delaying a decision on the elections, the SWAPO representative said, the South African occupiers are trying to gain time to strengthen the influence wielded within the country by the puppet figures they have bought. However, Mushimba continued, there can be no doubt that the same fate awaits these figures as that which overtook Muzorewa, the stooge of the Republic of South Africa and the Western monopolies, in Zimbabwe. The SWAPO leadership, he noted, is fully determined to seek a just solution of the Namibia issue. In response to the Pretoria authorities' maneuvers the patriots will step up their armed struggle for Namibia's freedom.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS SWAPO ON ANNIVERSARY

LD231251 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 80 p 1

[Text of CPSU Central Committee message to South-West Africa People's Organization National Executive Committee]

[Text] To the National Executive Committee of the South West African People's Organization--SWAPO (Namibia).

Dear comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates you on a noteworthy event--the 20th anniversary of SWAPO's foundation.

Throughout its history your party has waged a resolute struggle against the South African occupation and for an independent, democratic and united Namibia. Under its leadership the national liberation movement in the country has achieved great successes. SWAPO is rightly acknowledged as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

In the year of the 110th anniversary of the great Lenin's birth communists and all Soviet people reassert their unchanging solidarity with Namibian patriots. We are confident that SWAPO's just cause will triumph.

The people of Namibia will be free!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

BREZHNEV, SENEGALESE PRESIDENT EXCHANGE CABLES

LD231119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 3

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent President Leopold Sedar Senghor of the Republic of Senegal a telegram conveying to the president and the friendly Senegalese people sincere congratulations and wishes for happiness and prosperity on the country's national holiday--the 20th anniversary of the proclamation of independence.

In his reply telegram Senegal's president expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and in his turn conveyed best wishes to L.I. Brezhnev and wishes for prosperity to the Soviet people.

RECEPTION HONORS USSR'S LAKE PLACID COMPETITORS

LD210957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 3

[Text] TASS--On 15 April the USSR Government held a reception in honor of Soviet athletes who took part in the 13th Winter Olympics.

The reception was attended by: M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; I.T. Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Olympics-80 Organizing Committee; T.Ya. Kiselev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Ye. M. Tyazhelnikov, CPSU Central Committee department chief; A.I. Shibayev, chairman of the AUCCTU; B.N. Pastukhov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee; ministers, leaders of party, soviet, public and sports organizations, and well-known sportsmen and coaches.

M.V. Zimyanin congratulated the athletes on their achievements at the Lake Placid winter Olympics and wished Soviet Olympians success at the summer Olympics.

S.P. Pavlov, chairman of the USSR Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, and I.K. Rodnina, three times Olympic champion, expressed profound gratitude on behalf of the athletes to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev personally for their constant concern for the development of physical culture and sport in our country.

GRISHIN'S SPEECH AT LENIN STATUE UNVEILING

LD220056 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1606 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, 21 April, TASS--A monument to Lenin was ceremonially unveiled today in the historical Gorkiy Leninskiye nature park near Moscow. The monument--a life-size bronze-cast sculpture of Lenin--was erected following a decision of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom. This majestic monument, he said, was erected to mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of Lenin, the founder of the Communist Party and the first socialist state in the world, and leader and teacher of all working people. The Lenin jubilee is being solemnly marked, together with the peoples of the USSR and the fraternal countries of socialism, by all progressive people.

The CPSU holds sacred the behests of the great leader. All its plans and achievements, Viktor Grishin stressed, are permeated by faithfulness to Leninism. The political line worked out by the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses is a continuation and creative development of Lenin's plan for building socialism and communism. The Soviet people warmly approve and unanimously support the CPSU's political line and practical activity in the name of the triumph of the cause of Leninism and peace.

The monument was erected in the place where Lenin spent the last years of his life and where he wrote many works on the most important issues of party, economic and cultural construction and international politics. The monument was built by the sculptor Isaak Brodskiy and a group of architects.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES WRITERS AT MEETING IN GEORGIA

LD240829 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 3 Apr 80 p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the Georgian CP Central Committee: Always With the Party, Always With the People"]

[Excerpts] Literature's key tasks are the constant enrichment of the Soviet person's spiritual world and his ideological-political, moral, patriotic and internationalist education.

These ideas permeated the businesslike and frank conversation which took place at the Georgian CP Central Committee where Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, met with a large group of writers.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze stressed that the CPSU program, the USSR Constitution and the Soviet way of life provide every opportunity for the harmonious development of all nations, nationalities and ethnic groups of our great motherland. The Communist Party's Leninist policy in the nationalities question and in the question of the development of national cultures is a firm guarantee of the steady spiritual flourishing of our society. Over recent years great positive changes have taken place in cultural building in the Abkhazskaya ASSR, the Adzharskaya ASSR and the Yugo-Osetinskaya Autonomous Oblast. The successes of literature and art of Abkhazia and Yugo-Osetia gladden all the working people of Soviet Georgia.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze gave a high appraisal to the activity of the republic's writers in further consolidating the Leninist friendship of peoples and noted that there is no writer today who has not touched in his work upon the theme of the friendship of our country's peoples. The elaboration of this theme is the sacred duty of every writer.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze stressed that the party has always correctly understood and understands the role of the mother tongue in the building of a new society. Today the mother tongues of our country's peoples serve the grand ideals of communism.

Recently in our republic important measures have been implemented to further develop the Georgian language and to improve the teaching of it. The fate of the mother tongues of the other peoples living in our republic is in reliable hands. Every effort must be made to further develop the Abkhaz and Ossetian languages and to improve the quality of the teaching of the Azerbaijan and Armenian languages. More attention should be paid to the study of foreign languages in secondary schools and VUZes.

At the same time, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze said, alongside the mother tongue it is essential to master the Russian language which is a powerful means for intercourse between nations and by means of which the peoples of our country receive boundless opportunities to gain access to the treasure house of culture, science and civilization. It is gratifying that in the question of studying the Russian language writers fully support the measures being pursued in the republic.

TYAZHELNIKOV, OTHERS ADDRESS SEMINAR FOR LECTURERS ON ATHEISM

LD231551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 80 p 2

[TASS report: "Lecturers Studying"]

[Text] An all-union seminar of party committee lecturers on problems of atheism has concluded its work in Moscow.

Lectures were heard on Lenin's atheist legacy and on the special features of atheist propaganda under modern conditions. The seminar participants exchanged experience of propaganda work.

The seminar was addressed by Ye.N. Tyazhelnikov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department; P.K. Luchinskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department; executives of the CPSU Central Committee Departments: V.A. Kuroyedov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Council for Religious Affairs; P.K. Kurochkin, director of the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy Institute of Scientific Atheism; I.R. Grigulevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and others.

MOLDAVIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

LD220957 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on the Moldavian CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A Moldavian CP Central Committee plenum was held on 9 April. Gorkom and raykom first secretaries, gorispolkom and rayispolkom chairmen and leaders of the republic's ministries and departments who do not belong to the Central Committee were invited to the plenum.

The plenum examined the question of "progress in fulfilling CPSU Central Committee resolutions on further improving work with working people's letters and improving the reception of citizens in the republic's party, soviet and other organizations." A report was delivered by Comrade N.V. Merenishchev, second secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee.

Taking part in the debate on the report were Comrades V.N. Yukin, first secretary of Beltsy Gorkom; I. Ye. Iordanov, chairman of the Moldavian CP Auditing Commission; N.I. Uzun, chairman of Kishinev Gorispolkom; V.A. Firsova, weaver at the Bendery silk combine; D.S. Chebotar, first secretary of Goldyanskiy Raykom; V.G. Sinev, chairman of Tiraspol Gorispolkom; N.F. Bondarchuk, secretary of the Moldavian Republican Trade Unions Council; I.I. Cheban, Moldavian SSR prosecutor; D.V. Tiklenko, first secretary of Kantemirskiy Raykom; O.V. Rykova, Moldavian SSR minister of social security; N.D. Yeremiya, editor of the newspaper MOLDOVA SOCIALISTE; A.I. Gruzovenko, deputy chairman of the Moldavian SSR People's Control Committee; S.G. Buze, first secretary of Kutuzovskiy Raykom; N.V. Polozhenko, Moldavian SSR minister of housing and municipal services; and V.N. Pomin, Moldavian SSR minister of motor transport.

The plenum adopted an appropriate resolution on the question discussed.

The plenum examined questions regarding the 1st session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

The plenum released Comrade K.E. Ilyashenko from his duties as member of the Moldavian CP Central Committee Bureau in connection with his retirement on pension.

The plenum released Comrade S.P. Tereshov from his duties as chief of the Moldavian CP Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Department in connection with his retirement on pension.

The plenum appointed Comrade E.V. Semenov chief of the Moldavian CP Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Department.

The plenum participants were addressed by Comrade D.N. Lyubimov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Letters Department.

A speech was delivered at the plenum by Comrade I.I. Bodyul, first secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee.

Comrade S.V. Burov, instructor of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department, took part in the plenum's work.

With this the plenum finished its work.

MOLDAVIAN SUPREME SOVIET ELECTS I.P. KALIN PRESIDIUM CHAIRMAN

LD240803 [Editorial Report] Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLADVIYA in Russian 11 April 1980 front-pages a Moldavian Supreme Soviet resolution dated 10 April on the election of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The resolution reports the election of Ivan Petrovich Kalin as presidium chairman, German Trofimovich Afterpuk and Ivan Fedorovich Botezat as presidium deputy chairmen and Anna Vasilyevna Melnik as presidium secretary. The list of presidium members elected includes the name of K.E. Ilyashenko, who, according to a 10 April Supreme Soviet session speech by Moldavian CP Central Committee First Secretary I.I. Bodyul front-paged in the same paper, had "asked not to be nominated for his previous post" of Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman "in connection with the deterioration in his state of health."

DEATH OF MOLDAVIAN LEADER ILYASHENKO ANNOUNCED

LD231822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers announce with profound sorrow that Kirill Fedorovich Ilyashenko, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and former chairman of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium, died after a serious and prolonged illness at the age of 64 on 21 April.

The obituary, signed by the leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, says: Kirill Fedorovich Ilyashenko demonstrated his devotion to the cause of the party and the fact that he was a communist of principle and a skillful organizer of the masses in all his party and state posts.

He had made a great contribution to the development of Moldavia's national economy and culture, to the strengthening of friendship of the Moldavian people with the fraternal peoples of the USSR.

The Communist Party and the Soviet state had assessed highly Ilyashenko's services. He was awarded two orders of Lenin, the Order of the October Revolution, two orders of labor red banner, the Order of the Badge of Honor, and many medals.

We will cherish in our hearts forever the glorious memory of Kirill Fedorovich Ilyashenko, the true son of the Communist Party and the socialist motherland.

CHARDZHOUSKIY OBKOM PLENUM HELD, POLITICAL EDUCATION DISCUSSED

LD211537 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 3 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Chardzhou, 2 April, TURKMENINFORM--The oblast party organization's tasks in further improving the leadership of the working people's Marxist-Leninist education in the light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Further Improvement of Ideological and Political-Educational Work" were discussed at a routine party obkom plenum held here today. R. Khudayberdiyev, first secretary of the obkom, delivered the report.

The keynote speaker and other speakers mentioned the increased political awareness and activeness of the working people preparing to greet worthily the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, analyzed in detail the progress of study in the system of party, Komsomol and economic education, indicated shortcomings, and suggested ways of eliminating them.

N. Mollayeva, secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee, delivered a speech at the plenum.

An appropriate resolution was adopted on the question discussed.

Ye. Ovlyakuliyev, chief of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee science and educational establishments department, took part in the work of the plenum.

CHARDZHOU GORKOM FIRST SECRETARY REPLACED

LD211539 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 3 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Chardzhou, TURKMENINFORM--A routine gorkom plenum held here has discussed the question of "the work of the Chardzhou City Party Organization in further increasing the militancy of the primary party organizations in fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and 21st Turkmenistan CP Congress." N.S. Gusev, second secretary of the gorkom, delivered the report.

The plenum examined organizational questions. In connection with his transfer to other work A. Pirkulyyev was relieved of his duties as first secretary and Bureau member of the gorkom.

B.A. Ishankuliyev was elected first secretary and Bureau member of the gorkom.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA REPORTS ON SPRING SOWING OF GRAIN, PULSES, COTTON

LD232254 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The first report on the progress of spring crop sowing on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and interfarm enterprises has been compiled. The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that on 21 April the country's farms had sown 4.5 million hectares to spring grain and pulse crops excluding corn, 2.6 million hectares to cotton, and over 418,000 hectares to sugar beet. In cold and rainy weather conditions machine operators have been working selflessly and using equipment highly efficiently. Farm workers are focusing their attention on grain crops. This year the country's grain farmers plan to gather in no less than 235 million tons of grain.

The onset of spring was 10 to 14 days late in a number of areas of the country. The lag which was observed at the beginning of work has already been overcome in a whole number of areas. The farmers of Azerbaijan and a number of oblasts of Uzbekistan have completed sowing cotton.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 23 APRIL

LD240536 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 23 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

Semipalatinskaya and Kuybyshevskaya oblasts have begun mass agricultural work. Sowing of early grain crops has begun in Semipalatinskaya Oblast. A total of 100,000 hectares have been sown to date. Spring crops will occupy 1.2 million hectares this year in areas adjoining the Irtysh in Semipalatinskaya Oblast. Harrowing of underwinter fallows has begun in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast. The plan is to carry out harrowing as quickly as possible since moisture levels in the oblast are lower than usual. Farms in the Chechen-Ingushskaya ASSR are sowing corn. This year's target in the autonomous republic is 110,000 tons of grain, which will be a record. (0600 GMT)

Field work has started in the central part of the Non-Chernozem Zone. Sowing of spring crops is in progress in Kharkovskaya Oblast; sowing of spring grain and legumens has already been completed in Zaporozhskaya Oblast. Planting of potatoes has begun throughout the Ukraine, on an area of almost 600,000 hectares. In Kazakhstan, the sowing periods have started on corn plantations. In the extreme south of Volgogradskaya Oblast, sowing of mustard, barley and oats is in progress. Preparations for sowing are underway in eastern regions. In the Irtysh-Karaganda Canal zone the flooding of estuaries has started; this will make irrigation of 60,000 hectares possible in the summer. The northern limit of sowing lies at the moment in Poltavskaya Oblast. (1100 GMT)

KUZNETSOV ATTENDS SUPREME SOVIET DISCUSSION OF SHORTCOMINGS

LD231400 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] A joint session of the commissions for agriculture and the commissions for construction and construction materials industry of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet took place in the Kremlin today. Fulfillment of the plan targets and implementation of deputies' proposals in the development of agriculture in the Non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR were discussed.

It was noted in particular that capital investments in excess of R25 billion have begun directed for the development of the Russian Non-Chernozem Zone and of the sectors of industry connected with it in the last 4 years of the 5-year plan, that is, 1.6 times more than during the corresponding period of the Ninth 5-Year Plan. Deliveries of tractors, combines, lorries, excavators and other equipment increased significantly. Work in land improvement and chemicalization of land is conducted on a large scale. Specialization and concentration of agricultural production is developing and its transfer to an industrial basis is being consistently implemented. The number of interfar enterprises is growing.

The commissions also noted that work in the transformation of the Non-Chernozem Zone still does not meet current demands. For instance, many plan targets of the comprehensive program for the development of agriculture are not being fully met, and major material and financial resources invested in the development of agricultural production are not always used effectively. Questions of improving labor and living conditions in the countryside are being resolved slowly.

The adoption decision contains recommendations directed toward the elimination of shortcomings and the unconditional fulfillment of planned targets.

The session was attended by Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Kebin, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; chairmen of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet; and chiefs of a number of ministries and departments.

KRASNODARSKIY KRAYKOM HEAD ADDRESSES PLENUM

ID231555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 80 p 2

[Correspondent V. Logvinov report: "In the Main Direction"]

[Text] Krasnodar, 11 April--The tasks of the kray party organization in further improving the quality of agricultural produce--this question was placed on the agenda of a routine Krasnodarskiy Kraykom plenum. The report was delivered by kraykom First Secretary S.F. Medunov.

It was pointed out at the plenum that the kray party organization, fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the party Central Committee's July (1978) and November (1979) plenums, has accumulated positive experience of mobilizing working people to enhance the qualitative indicators of agricultural production. This work has become one of the main directions in the activities of the kray's party organizations.

The plenum approved an action program for party organizations aimed at increasing production and further raising the quality of agricultural produce.

COSMONAUTS' WORK ON BOARD SALYUT-6 DESCRIBED

LD232038 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, 23 April (TASS)--"The efficiency of the orbiting spacecraft and its crew increases with the length of the mission," concluded Konstantin Feoktistov, astronaut-cosmonaut of the USSR and one of the creators of space technology.

TASS correspondent Aleksandr Romanov, back from a meeting with him at Mission Control Center reports:

On 23 April the Salyut-6 space station, launched in September 1977, Feoktistov said, had completed 14,770 revolutions round the earth. It travels an almost circular orbit at altitudes of approximately 349-353 km, making 16 complete revolutions of the earth in 24 hours.

Commenting on the unprecedented length of the Salyut-6 mission, Konstantin Feoktistov remarked that the design itself provided the basis for this capacity. One of its major features is the interchangeability of individual operation systems and modules which directly support the space station's working efficiency and reliability. We can replace virtually any of the research equipment on the Salyut-6.

This sort of technical operation, Feoktistov stressed, costs many times less than sending up more space stations. This is why the present expedition on board the Salyut-Soyuz-Progress complex have for almost 2 weeks been mainly engaged in repair and fault prevention work. In the near future Leonid Popov and Valeriy Tyumin will start charging up the complex with fuel and oxidizer which were delivered by Progress-8.

Konstantin Feoktistov said that Popov and Ryumin are coping with their duties excellently. The experience of flight engineer Ryumin, who has been in orbit three times, and the excellent professional training of Popov, primarily make themselves felt here.

Lengthy mission by earlier crews showed that the most productive performance by cosmonauts in in-space conditions commences 1 month to 6 weeks after the mission starts, Feoktistov said. This conclusion was confirmed by the 140- and 175-day missions carried out by Kovalenko and Ivanchenkov, and by Lyakhov and Ryumin. Some 400 different scientific, design and economic organizations in the country have an interest in the experiments and research carried out on board the space complex.

To the question of how soon Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin will actually get down to their scientific experiments, Konstantin Feoktistov said: "In part the crew was already started performing this part of the program. This includes visual observation of the earth, technological experiments and medical-biological research. But, I repeat, at the present stage the crew's main job is to get the whole package of repair and fault prevention operations done and thus lay the foundation for the further operation of Salyut-6 in orbit."

DUSHANBE HOSTS ALL-UNION CONFERENCE OF WATER RESOURCES

LD220959 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 29 Mar 80 p 1

[TADZHIKTA report: "All-Union Conference of Reclamation and Water Resource Scientists"]

[Text] An all-union scientific and technical conference on the subject "Increasing the Effectiveness of Scientific Research Work of Organizations in the System of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources" opened in Dushanbe on 28 March. Directors of scientific research institutes in the system of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture, scientists and specialists are participating in it.

The conference was opened by M.F. Vasilyev, USSR Minister of Land Reclamation and Water Resources.

D.R. Rasulov, first secretary of the Tadzhikistan CP Central Committee, addressed greetings to the participants in the all-union conference.

The report "Development Prospects of Reclamation and the Main Tasks of Scientific Research and Planning Organizations of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources" was delivered by B.G. Shtepa, USSR deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources.

The work of scientific research reclamation and hydroengineering establishments was described at the conference by B.B. Shumakov, secretary-academician of the Hydroengineering and Reclamation Department of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences and by Dr of Technical Sciences Prof B.S. Maslov, chief of the main science administration of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources.

The conference will last 2 days. Its participants will visit the Gissar scientific research proving ground for new irrigation equipment, the Nurek GES and water conservation projects in the republic.

Participating in the work of the all-union conference are M. Kh. Kholov, chairman of the Tadzhik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; R.N. Nabiyev, chairman of the republic Council of Ministers; and A.N. Maksumov and K.M. Makhkamov, deputy chairman of the Tadzhik SSR Council of Ministers.

ACADEMICIAN SEMENOV VIEWS WAYS OF USING SOLAR ENERGY

LD240859 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 April 1980 publishes on page 3 under the rubric "Science: Growth Points", headlined "Plus Solar Energy" a 1,700-word article on ways of harnessing solar power by Academician N. Semenov and USSR Academy of Sciences corresponding member K. Zamarayev. The writers claim that "the problem of an energy crisis does not face us today" but that there is "a need to assimilate sources of energy which will in the future gradually exclude the utilization of natural, combustible fuel." The article then describes the processes involved in four possible methods--thermotechnical, photoelectric, biological and chemical--of collecting solar energy.

KOLDUNOV OUTLINES ACHIEVEMENTS OF AIR DEFENSE FORCES

LD2315Z8 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1215 GMT 13 Apr 80

[Talk by Air Marshal A.I. Koldunov, deputy USSR defense minister and commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces, on the occasion of Air Defense Forces Day]

[Text] Dear comrades, the Soviet people and its valiant armed forces are marking the day of the country's Air Defense Forces in an atmosphere of great political and labor enthusiasm prompted by the preparations for the glorious celebration of the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birthday. Implementing the decisions of the 25th party congress, the November 1979 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the tasks set by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his speech at the plenum and at the meeting with voters of the Moscow Baumanskiy Electoral District, our country's working people and the army and naval personnel have achieved new successes in strengthening the economic and defense potential of the Soviet state.

The Soviet people and the armed forces personnel have welcomed with feelings of great satisfaction the presentation of the Lenin Prize to Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium for his books "Malaya Zemlya", "The Virgin Lands" and "Rebirth." Steadily implementing Lenin's foreign policy line, the CPSU shows in practice its historic responsibility for the fate of our motherland and of all mankind. However, the peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet state meets fierce resistance from imperialist reaction and China's leadership. The ruling circles of the United States and other capitalist states take the path of dangerous adventures. They have taken the path of wrecking detente, a return of the cold war atmosphere and an increase of the arms race.

Under conditions of increasing military danger, the constant increase in the defense potential of our country and the increase of the military potential of Soviet Armed Forces, were and remain the most important factors for ensuring peace and the building of the communist society. Creating a military organization of a new type for these purposes, the Communist Party and Vladimir Ilich Lenin worked out a scientifically-based program for the defense of the socialist fatherland which has stood the severe test of time. An important part in this program is played by the air defense of the country to protect against attacks on the political and industrial-economic centers and forces from the air.

We are proud that great Lenin stood at the source of these quite new problems of military affairs. During the past years the country's Air Defense Forces have covered a great and glorious path under Lenin's banner. They have absorbed the revolutionary spirit of the legendary soldiers of Great October and the glorious military traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces. Many brilliant examples of devoted heroism, courage and bravery among the soldiers and commanders of the Air Defense Forces are inscribed in the history of the fiery years of the Civil War. High examples of selfless fulfillment of patriotic and international duties and all-conquering spiritual strength were shown by Soviet soldiers during the years of the Great Patriotic War. The formations and units of the Air Defense Forces have carried their military banners with honor through heavy battles with fascism and Japanese militarism. They shot down more than 7,000 enemy aircraft, destroyed more than 1,000 tanks, about 1,500 guns and mortars and much other military equipment and enemy soldiers.

In close military cooperation with other branches of the armed forces, the country's Air Defense Forces have inflicted serious losses on the enemy's air force. They wrecked the evil plans of Hitler's command for the destruction of our cities, industrial and cultural centers. The armed forces' military feat received a high evaluation from the motherland. Many formations and units won honorary titles. Tens of thousands of servicemen were awarded orders and medals of the Soviet Union.

On the eve of the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War, we pay tribute of profound gratitude to the heroic feats of Fighter Pilot Captain Ostashkin, Junior Lieutenants Tolarikhin and Borisov, the air heroines of the 586th Women's Fighters Air Regiment; Antiaircraft Artillery Major Gerasimov, Captain Dyemen, Senior Lieutenant Volnyanskiy; and many other fiery patriots of our motherland.

The courage and heroism of air defense servicemen have forever entered the arsenal of military traditions. The defenders of the Soviet skies worthily bear the glory of the older generation which defended the Soviet motherland during the years of the Great Patriotic War. During the postwar period the country's Air Defense Forces have achieved qualitatively new levels in their development. They have changed radically. Because of the constant solicitude of the party's Central Committee, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally, and the achievements of science and technology, they are now equipped with modern antiaircraft missiles and air force complexes, with radio electronic instruments for various purposes, and reliable control means which ensure the fulfillment of all tasks facing them.

However, our forces are not only strong in their equipment. Soviet forces are instructed in Marxism-Leninism which forms a strong foundation for the ideological maturity, communist conviction and high moral-political and military qualities. Now almost 80 percent of servicemen in the country's Air Defense Forces have higher and secondary education. More than half the officers have higher military and special training. They are capable of solving any problems. Fulfilling the requirements of marshal of the Soviet Union, Comrade Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, USSR minister of defense, the personnel is steadily mastering modern military machinery and the methods and ways of its effective use in battle.

In the face of the dangerous intrigues of imperialist aggressors, our soldiers consider it their sacred duty to constantly increase their military preparedness, to show high vigilance and to be always on guard, as great Lenin taught.

The winter training period is ending in a tense rhythm. The forces personnel are meeting the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birthday with new successes in military and political training. It is full of resolution to live, work, fight and serve in Lenin's way, in the communist way. It is clearly proved by the wide scope of socialist competition among the forces. In the vanguard of this patriotic movement stand the personnel of the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel (Klimentov). Many military collectives and servicemen were awarded the honorary Lenin certificate for successes achieved in military-political training, for mastering new machinery and fulfilling military tasks. While celebrating their feast, the country's Air Defense Forces assure the CPSU, the great Soviet people that they will continue to guard firmly and vigilantly the revolutionary conquests of the peoples in close cooperation with other types of armed forces and in military cooperation with the forces of the Warsaw Pact.

We express our sincere gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the party, Soviet and Komsomol organs, the DOSAAF organizations, the creative unions and all working people for the constant attention and solicitude for the Air Defense Forces.

Dear comrades, today the day of the country's Air Defense Forces is celebrated in the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan and in an atmosphere of active preparation for the 26th CPSU Congress. Allow me to congratulate you warmly and sincerely, all the forces of the army and the fleet and our veterans on this celebration and to wish new glorious achievements in the name of further prosperity of our beloved motherland, and a worthy welcome to the forthcoming congress of Lenin's party. Thank you for your attention.